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VORONTSOV DISCUSSES U.S. DRAFT TREATY IN ROME

LD122238 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 1900 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] [Announcer] The chief Soviet negotiator at the arms talks in Geneva, Yuliy Vorontsov, told a news conference in Rome today that the Soviet Union is preparing to present a draft treaty on intercontinental nuclear missiles that will include a ban on deployment of weapons in space. He said: We have examined the American draft and it is not bad, but it lacks a very important element -- the element of space weapons. And so my question to you, Yuriy Minayev: Why is the issue of limiting intercontinental nuclear missiles connected to the issue of space weapons?

[Minayev] The draft submitted by the United States does not take into account the interrelationships existing between strategic and space weapons. The American Star Wars program, advocated by Ronald Reagan, would break the strategic balance which exists now and which must continue to exist during the phase of reducing intercontinental nuclear missiles. To make things clear I can say this: The Star Wars program is intended to destroy intercontinental missiles, which are under negotiation now. If the Soviet Union and the United States are going to scrap all missiles of this type, then why does the United States need this program? If they insist on it we can come to the conclusion that the American side is not going to scrap intercontinental missiles in order to use them for a possible attack in combination with space weapons. This is the interrelationship between these two types of weapons.

Further Details

AU130911 Rome ANSA in English 0846 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] (ANSA) Rome -- The Soviet Union and the United States could reach an agreement for the dismantlement of their medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe by the end of September and the nuclear war-heads deployed on them could be destroyed by the year's end, according to Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Yuliy Vorontsov.

Addressing a press conference here after meeting Italian Prime Minister Amintore Fanfani and Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti, he said the war-heads should be destroyed "where they are now, in other words, before all European public opinion".

"It would be an event of historical importance and a very important step towards (total) nuclear disarmament", he added as he repeated the Soviet offer for a "zero option" on short-range missiles, too.

Short-range missiles are classified as those with a flight range of from 500 to 1,000 kilometers. Medium-range or intermediate missiles cover from 1,000 to 5,000 kilometers. When the range is above 5,000 kilometers, the missiles are classified as strategic.

According to Vorontsov, the Soviet Union is also ready to start negotiations on conventional arms, but "The West seems to have no hurry in getting the talks going". He denied alleged Soviet superiority in conventional arms.

Vorontsov added that a U.S. proposal for a 50-percent reduction in strategic nuclear weapons was "not bad at all", but he argued that it leaves out the fundamental problem of space weapons as planned in the Reagan administration's Strategic Defense Initiative, otherwise known as "Star Wars".

"An agreement to eliminate half the strategic nuclear arms should be accompanied by a Soviet and American commitment not to put arms into space", he said, disclosing that Moscow is studying the U.S. proposal and will make a "more balanced" counter-proposal.

According to Vorontsov, once the two superpowers' strategic arsenals were eliminated, talks could start with countries like France and Britain on their national nuclear forces. Asked about the prospects for a joint European defense force, he said he would prefer not to comment while waiting to see what this could mean in relationship to NATO. But he said the Soviet Union is waiting "anxiously" for a West European reply to the Soviet-American "zero option" proposals on intermediate-range missiles.

"We should like to see a responsible attitude in Western Europe", he said. "If minor moves are started within the Atlantic alliance, the missiles will stay where they are".

"The situation is paradoxical", Vorontsov added. "It seems as though the Europeans like our SS20s. We are truly surprised by European opposition to the zero option. It is as if Chernobyl had been forgotten".

In other points, he described the Italian position on the nuclear disarmament agreement being debated by the Soviet Union and the United States as "serious and very responsible", adding that Italy is "fully aware there is no time to lose".

Apart from the Italian Government leaders, Vorontsov also met the Vatican's cardinal secretary of state, Agostino Casaroli, and Italian Communist Party Secretary, Alessandro Natta.

Meets Fanfani

LD121856 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1830 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Fanfani, chairman of the Italian Council of Ministers, has received Vorontsov, USSR first deputy minister of foreign affairs, who is in the Italian capital. During a conversation, the head of the Italian Government was informed of the Soviet position and the state of affairs at the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space weapons in Geneva. The main focus of attention in the conversation was the possibility of achieving an accord on the elimination of medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe, which has emerged.

SHEVARDNADZE, UK'S HEALEY DISCUSS DISARMAMENT

LD121519 Moscow TASS in English 1509 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 12 TASS -- Edward Shevardnadze, a member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and foreign minister of the USSR, today received Denis Healey, a prominent member of Britain's Labour Party who is the "shadow" foreign secretary, and they had a thorough and spirited discussion of the key international problems of the times.

Healey was briefed in detail upon recent Soviet initiatives towards an early accord on the issue of medium-range and theater missiles in Europe. He hailed the Soviet Union's readiness to come to terms on a complete elimination of these classes of weapons from Europe.

The common understanding was expressed that in the nuclear and space age a lasting security, both general security and the security of each nation in particular, can only be ensured through all-round cooperation among countries with different social systems, a scaling down of military confrontation and radical steps towards complete nuclear disarmament, and by preventing the arms race from spilling over into outer space.

As they discussed a Middle Eastern settlement, they called for convening an international conference on the Middle East.

Healey Holds News Conference

LD121812 Moscow TASS in English 1757 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 12 TASS -- Denis Healey, a prominent member of the British Labour Party, foreign secretary in the "shadow" cabinet, spoke at a press conference here today devoted to the results of his talks in Moscow. Denis Healey is staying in the Soviet Union on the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee.

He said that "we are presented now with an opportunity for lifting the shadow of nuclear war, for burying the cold war psychosis and for moving towards an international security system. The movement so far has been steadily in the right direction even if not as fast as I would wish." Denis Healey stressed his conviction that "the Soviet Government is completely sincere in what it is seeking to do".

Denis Healey said he had a busy time in Moscow discussing a wide range of major international issues. His talks focused on disarmament issues because they are "the kernel of East-West relations at the present time".

He expressed the view that the Soviet side attaches much importance to the Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space arms, first of all to the question of eliminating medium-range and shorter-range missiles in Europe. Denis Healey said this "negotiation is going well although some technical difficulties are to be overcome" and that the attainment of accord is possible. He also said that it was his impression that the Soviet side "is pressing very hard to get agreement on this". Denis Healey added that if European countries "look at the alternative, they will have to decide that the Soviet offer is the best".

Denis Healey said he was disturbed by the stand taken by the British Government which refuses to accept the Soviet proposals on medium-range missiles. In his opinion Britain could play a more important role by using her influence to persuade the West Europeans, especially West Germany, of the need to accept the Soviet proposal.

BESSMERTNYKH, SHULTZ DISCUSSES ARMS REDUCTION

LD112027 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2013 GMT 11 May 87

[Text] Washington, 12 May (TASS) -- On Monday, George Shultz, U.S. Secretary of State, received A.A. Bessmertnykh, USSR deputy minister of foreign affairs, for a conversation during the course of which certain questions concerning Soviet-U.S. relations, including concerning perspectives for talks on questions of limiting and reducing weapons, were discussed.

Particular attention was paid to the state of affairs developing around the problem of medium-range and operational and tactical missiles. Yu.V. Dubinin, USSR ambassador in the United States, took part in the conversation.

NIKIFOROV VISITS SWEDEN TO DISCUSS PROPOSALS

LD122031 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 12 May 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Swedish Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson today received Nikiforov, special representative of the USSR Council of Ministers and deputy USSR foreign minister, who conveyed to him a message from the head of the Soviet Government. During the meeting there was discussion of topical questions related to the new Soviet initiatives on the elimination of medium-range nuclear missiles and operational and tactical missiles in Europe, as well as other proposals on problems of European security. In this context, the USSR has received with satisfaction the positive appraisal of these initiatives by the Swedish Government. In a spirit of trust and mutual understanding, certain questions of Soviet-Swedish relations of mutual interest were considered.

SOVIETS ARRIVE IN VIENNA FOR ARMS REDUCTION TALKS

LD121253 Moscow TASS in English 1436 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Vienna May 12 TASS -- A Soviet delegation led by V.V. Mikhaylov has arrived in Vienna today to attend the scheduled round of talks on mutual force and arms cuts in central Europe. The talks are due to open on May 14.

POLAND'S ORZECHOWSKI ADDRESSES CSCE MEETING

LD121942 Moscow TASS in English 1923 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Vienna May 12 TASS -- Favourable conditions have been recently created for a cut in the level of military confrontation in Europe, and real prospects are opening for freeing the continent from medium and shorter range missiles, a cut in the forces and conventional weapons from the Atlantic to the Urals. A statement to this effect was made at the plenary session of the Vienna meeting of representatives of the states -- participants in the Conference on European Security and Cooperation today by Marian Orzechowski, member of the Political Bureau of the Polish United Workers' Party Central Committee, Polish foreign minister. He pointed out in that connection that the specific plan proposed by Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the Polish United Workers' Party Central Committee, chairman of the Polish Council of State, provides for a broad spectrum of measures directed at a cut in arms and building up confidence in Central Europe.

Delegation Leaders Interviewed

LD102055 Budapest MTI in English 1828 GMT 10 May 87

[Text] Budapest, May 10 (MTI) -- The weekly political magazine programme of Hungarian television "A Het" (The Week) Sunday evening carried interviews with Yuriy Kashlev and Warren Zimmermann, the leaders of the Soviet and the American delegations participating in the Vienna Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

Discussing the development of Soviet-American relations, Zimmermann said:

"There has been a certain rapprochement in our bilateral relations. The Moscow visit of Secretary of State George Shultz was very successful, and a large and important congressional delegation also visited Moscow. We have achieved certain progress at the Geneva talks on the medium-range nuclear missiles, and I hope that all these will also be reflected here, in Vienna. I believe it is very important to keep the entire world, the total picture in view, while negotiating in Vienna. Naturally, what takes place in the East-West relations can have both positive and negative effects on our meeting. We are holding talks at this European follow-up meeting on the issue of confidence-building measures which were the theme of the Stockholm conference that came to a successful completion last September. Now, in another part of Vienna and independently of the European follow-up meeting, discussions are in progress which, hopefully, will lead to talks related to the reduction of conventional weapons. [No closing quotation mark as received].

Question: When can you complete the work with the approval of a resolution, recommendation or some other document?

Zimmerman: "The aim is to end our work by July 31. On behalf of the United States I can say that we are doing everything possible to complete these talks by that time. However, if we do not finish by then, I hope we shall complete our work by autumn."

Question: Can you complete this stage by July 31?

Yuriy Kashlev: "We are doing everything possible. But there are many things to discuss, therefore, no one can give guarantees... The clock can be stopped for a day or two. But then there has to be another entire round in the autumn, a supplementary round, and the clock cannot be stopped there. There are 140 proposals, which is a record number, and these have to be somehow incorporated into a single document. There are proposals that do not require much work, but there are some difficult proposals of principle. If there is a political will for the successful completion, then we have to work hard."

Question: What is the primary goal of the Soviet delegation in this round?

Kashlev: "When the Vienna conference opened on a ministerial level, we openly voiced our goal: We hope to achieve a balanced advance in all respects. In every basket."

Question: What is your stand about the Soviet proposal to hold a conference in Moscow that would deal solely with human rights.

Warren Zimmermann: "We are very interested in it. We have told our Soviet colleagues that it is too early for us to decide, and we said that we shall have two conditions. One of these will be that the Soviet Union has to present positive facts in the field of human rights. Our second condition will be that the Moscow conference be held under the same conditions as this conference here, in Vienna, or as the other, previous conference were held. In other words, that unofficial visitors, delegations of non-governmental organizations, foreign human rights activists be able to freely attend from abroad, and for them to be able to meet with whoever they wish to in the Soviet Union."

Yuriy Kashlev: "It is apparent that the Americans both do and do not want this conference. We would for them to talk about human rights, humanitarian issues in Moscow. On the other hand, what is currently taking place in the Soviet Union in this field, with respect to, for example, contacts between people, well, these human relations are considerably expanding. We are ready to discuss the state of human rights in our country, and in their country. And with respect to the conditions of the conference, we have, from the very beginning, said that we shall abide by all those prescribed conditions which are customary in the all-European process. Thus, with respect to the invitation of journalists, non-government level organizations, and even human rights organizations, we are not afraid of this, and we shall observe the rules.

SHULTZ 'OPTIMISM' IN BALTIMORE SUN ARTICLE CITED

LD122028 Moscow TASS in English 2015 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Washington May 12 TASS -- U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz declared in support of the conclusion of an agreement on the elimination of intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Europe between the USA and the USSR. He expressed cautious optimism about the possibility of reaching such an arrangement, which, he said, will be decidedly in the interest of the United States and NATO. "The United States and the Soviet Union appear to be nearing an agreement on intermediate-range nuclear forces", the head of the U.S. foreign policy department writes in a lengthy article published by THE BALTIMORE SUN today. "Such an agreement is not assured -- our negotiators still have important work before them -- but if it is concluded, it would constitute the first time in 25 years of U.S.-Soviet arms control talks that significant and verifiable reductions in any category of offensive nuclear weapons had taken place".

Touching upon "doubts" of a number of West European leaders about this problem, George Shultz expressed the opinion that an agreement on the elimination of intermediate-range nuclear forces from Europe should not be linked to conventional arms reductions in the area. He emphasizes that linking an intermediate-nuclear forces agreement to conventional-force reductions, which will undoubtedly take more years to negotiate, would be tantamount to introducing a "killer amendment".

At the same time, the U.S. secretary of state made it plain that the United States is not at all striving for ridding Europe of nuclear arms completely and is prepared already now to "balance" the elimination of intermediate-range nuclear forces and shorter-range missiles with modernization of other nuclear systems. George Shultz notes that "even after an agreement NATO would retain a robust deterrent. More than 4,000 U.S. nuclear weapons would still be in Europe, on aircraft that could penetrate deep into the Soviet Union, and on remaining missiles and nuclear artillery. NATO is planning on undertaking modernization of several of these systems. Also, several hundred submarine-launched ballistic-missile warheads would remain available to the supreme NATO commander," George Shultz writes.

COMPARISON OF UN DISARMAMENT COMMISSION SESSION

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian on 8 May carries in its Morning Edition on page 4 a report on Aleksander Bessmertnykh's comments on the UN Disarmament Commission session. The IZVESTIYA report has been compared with the Moscow TASS English version published in the 8 May Soviet Union DAILY REPORT on page AA 2, revealing the following variations:

IZVESTIYA inserts the following paragraph between paragraphs five and six of the TASS version: The Soviet representative reaffirmed the USSR's readiness for a proportionate, balanced reduction in military budgets and for beginning specific talks on this issue. He also stressed the importance of the commission first opening a discussion on issues concerning conventional arms and verification.

Paragraph six, line one reads in IZVESTIYA: The UN Disarmament Commission...(substituting "UN" for "U.S.")

Paragraph eight, last line reads in IZVESTIYA: pertaining to the UN role in that area. (substituting "UN" for "U.S.")

PRAVDA RESPONDS TO BBC ON ASIAN NUCLEAR BUILDUP

PM121105 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 May 87 Second Edition p 5

["Rejoinder" by Ye Yevgenyev "BBC Without Commentary"]

[Text] A recent BBC news broadcast "covered" the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva in their Asian aspect, so to speak. Of itself that is something normal. The question of eliminating medium-range missiles in Europe interests and concerns everyone as a possible first real step toward a nuclear-free world. But "people in the Far East," the BBC announced, "are very much afraid that an agreement on reducing nuclear missiles in Europe will enable the USSR to build up and update its nuclear forces in Asia."

Reducing in Europe in order to build up in Asia! Truly the Soviets' perfidy has no bounds, not even intercontinental bounds. The BBC does not name the source where it dug up this nonsense. It also refrains from making comments of its own. That is obviously no accident. After all even the most benighted editor in that corporation should know that the agreement to eliminate medium-range missiles in Europe will, if it is reached, lead at the same time to a major reduction of armaments of this class in Asia, restricting it to 100 warheads on each side, and will open the path to talks on the fate of the remaining medium-range missiles and operational and tactical missiles in this region. But the BBC keeps quiet about that. Just as it keeps quiet about how it is above all the United States that is now engaging in building up and modernizing nuclear forces in Asia, stationing Lance missiles in South Korea and nuclear weapon-carrying aircraft at the Misawa base in Japan.

Past masters! They have thundered into the air. Sown suspicions. Put people on their guard. And then not a word, they sidestep the issue. They are merely supplying information, they say, and you have to decide for yourselves. A tested Western method of obscuring the issue. But things are evidently in a bad way for London's opponents of a nuclear-free Europe if they are seeking nameless allies in such far-off places. And that indeed is information to be pondered.

U.S. PLANS FOR NUCLEAR BUILDUP IN EUROPE CITED

LD120955 Moscow TASS in English 0927 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Washington May 12 TASS -- As the newspaper WASHINGTON POST has learnt the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee has started a study of ways to build up U.S. nuclear power in Europe or near that continent, if a Soviet-American agreement is concluded on the elimination of medium- and short-range missiles in Europe. One of the proposed methods of a build-up of nuclear power is to deploy an additional number of submarines carrying nuclear-tipped cruise missiles against targets in the Warsaw Treaty member countries.

BOGACHEV ON 32D ANNIVERSARY OF WARSAW PACT

LD121855 Moscow TASS in English 1836 GMT 12 May 87

["Commentary on the 32nd Anniversary of Warsaw Treaty" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow May 12 TASS -- TASS military news analyst Vladimir Bogachev writes:

Thirty-two years ago, on May 14, 1955, a treaty of friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance was signed by representatives of European socialist countries in the capital of People's Poland.

It has become known as the Warsaw Treaty which marked the beginning of a defensive alliance of the fraternal socialist countries.

The main purpose of the Warsaw Treaty organization is to protect the peaceful creative labour and historical gains of the peoples of the socialist communist. This is a military and political alliance of a new type: Its task is to preserve peace, and not to prepare for war.

Founded in reply to the 'cold war' launched by the United States and to active preparations for an aggression by the countries of the North Atlantic Bloc, the Warsaw Treaty organization contributes to maintaining the strategic balance in Europe and is a powerful factor in stabilising the military and political situation in the world.

The Warsaw Treaty member states both jointly and separately make persistent efforts towards strengthening peace and international security and towards curbing the dangerous arms race.

The socialist community ardently supported the Soviet programme for the elimination of nuclear weapons by the turn of the century, the programme which was put forward by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU), on January 15, 1986, and the USSR's proposals on complete elimination of medium-and-shorter-range missiles in Europe.

On the eve of the 32nd anniversary of the signing of the Warsaw Treaty, Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers Party, president of the Council of State of the Polish People's Republic, came forward with new large-scale initiatives aimed at strengthening security in Europe.

The aim of the Polish proposal is to lower the level of military confrontation in the zone which covers the territories of nine countries: the German Democratic Republic, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and Poland as well as the Federal Republic of Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, and Denmark.

Subsequently the zone could be extended to cover the whole of Europe -- from the Atlantic Ocean to the Urals. The Polish plan envisages a gradual withdrawal of and cuts in jointly agreed upon shorter-range types of nuclear arms as well as conventional arms, first of all, those possessing the maximum destructive power and accuracy and capable of serving a sudden attack.

So, the proposals are aimed at stabilising the situation in Europe, at ruling out unpredictability in the development of events on the European Continent, and at reducing the temptation of some 'hot heads' to stretch out their hands towards the nuclear button in a crisis situation.

For the first time the plan to strengthen stability in Europe contains a proposal to change the nature of military doctrines so that they could be mutually recognised as being exclusively defensive ones.

And finally, the Jaruzelski plan in development of the Helsinki agreement envisages new security-and confidence-building measures with the use of national and international verification means, including on-site inspections.

To set the military potentials of the two blocs, including nuclear ones, as wide apart as possible, as is envisaged in Poland's comprehensive plan, is consonant with the idea of a nuclear-free Europe.

The implementation of the plan would considerably reduce the risk of an outbreak of nuclear war. The 'flexible response' concept adopted in NATO envisages a first use of nuclear weapons by NATO countries at the earliest stage of any conflict in Europe.

The initiative proposed by the leader of the Polish People's Republic is undoubtedly a substantial contribution to the development of the European security concept adopted by the Warsaw Treaty member states.

The initiative accords with the spirit of restructuring international relations with due regard for the dangerous realities of the nuclear missile age, and gives a new stimulus to the entire process of limiting and reducing the armed forces and armamente on the European Continent.

The countries of the socialist community in Europe approach the 32nd anniversary of the signing of the 1955 Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance united in their views and proceeding along the road of ensuring peace and security on the continent.

This is also illustrated by the GDR's and Czechoslovakia's initiatives concerning the establishment of a nuclear free corridor in central Europe, by Bulgaria's and Romania's proposals on a nuclear and chemical-weapons-free zone in the Balkans as well as by the decisions of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member states on security-building measures in Europe.

Soviet people support the fraternal socialist countries' proposals aimed at ridding mankind of the threat of nuclear war. They are ready to take all necessary actions for the proposals to be implemented.

Deputy Chief Comments

LD111326 Moscow TASS in English 1048 GMT 11 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 11 TASS — The Warsaw Treaty organisation, born as a reply measure to the aggressive intrigues by the NATO bloc, stood the test of time with honour and confirmed that it is the shield against which the designs by imperialist claimants to world domination, which are perilous to the cause of peace and socialism, break, Colonel-General Vladimir Verevkin-Rakhalskiy, first deputy chief of staff of the United Armed Forces of the Warsaw Treaty organisation, writes in an article for TASS in connection with the 32nd anniversary of this organisation marked on May 14.

In signing a protocol on extending the Warsaw Treaty in April 1985, the highest party functionaries and statesmen of the fraternal states noted that it was to serve in the future as well, as long as their existed the aggressive NATO bloc, a dependable instrument of enhancing international security.

The military commander recalls the important peace initiatives launched by the treaty member countries. He writes that they stand for a simultaneous disbandment of the Warsaw Treaty organisation and the North Atlantic bloc and as a first step -- for dissolving their military organisations.

Meetings among the commander-in-chief of the United Armed Forces of the Warsaw Treaty member states, the NATO Supreme Allied Commander in Europe, and working groups of experts, on issues of reducing armed forces and conventional armaments in Europe, set up within the framework of the Warsaw Treaty and NATO, could have a considerable role to play in easing world tensions if the NATO leaders agreed to them.

But the peace moves by the Warsaw Treat members states run up against counteraction on the part of imperialism's militarist forces, the colonel-general points out. The main efforts of the United States and NATO are aimed at acquiring military preponderance over the USSR and the Warsaw Treaty.

There has been no slackening in the efforts of U.S. imperialism to achieve world domination. In so doing, it shifted the centre of gravity towards the military field. The socialist countries cannot treat all this indifferently. They do not seek military superiority but will not allow the military-strategic parity between the Warsaw Treat and NATO to be upset.

RAZUMOVSKIY DELEGATION DEPARTS FOR ROMANIA

PM121553 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 May 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "To Participate in Conference"]

[Text] A CPSU delegation headed by G.P. Razumovskiy, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, left Moscow for Bucharest 11 May. It will be taking part in a conference of Central Committee secretaries from the fraternal parties of the socialist countries concerned with questions of party organization work.

The delegation comprised N.A. Zolotarev, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Party Organization Work Department; R.P. Fedorov, deputy chief of a CPSU Central Committee department; and I.A. Shvets, leader of the CPSU Central Committee Party Organization Work Department's Consultative Group.

The delegation was seen off at the airport by A.I. Lukyanov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; K.N. Mogilnichenko and M.N. Smirnovskiy, deputy chiefs of CPSU Central Committee departments; and senior CPSU Central Committee officials.

N.M. Ion, Romanian ambassador to the USSR, was among the send-off party.

Arrives in Bucharest

LD111424 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1358 GMT 11 May 87

[Text] Bucharest, 11 May (TASS) -- A CPSU delegation led by Georgiy Razumovskiy, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, arrived in Bucharest today. It is to take part in a conference of secretaries of Central Committees of the fraternal parties of socialist countries involved in questions relating to organizational-party work.

At the airport in Bucharest the delegation was met by Emil Bobu, member of the Political Executive Committee and secretary of the RCP Central Committee, and senior workers of the RCP Central Committee.

Yevgeniy Tyazhelnikov, ambassador of the USSR to Romania, was among the meeting party.

Attends Secretaries Meeting

LD120921 Moscow TASS in English 0855 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Bucharest May 12 TASS -- A meeting of secretaries of the Central Committees of the fraternal parties of socialist countries in charge of party organization work opened here today.

The participants will exchange views on and experience of intensifying party organization work, scaling up efforts of party bodies and organizations to enhance the responsibility of communists for the implementation of decisions passed by party congresses -- the decisions dealing with the social and economic development and the extension of socialist democracy.

The CPSU delegation is led by Georgiy Razumovskiy, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

CEMA COUNTRIES MEET, DISCUSS NUCLEAR POWER

LD121638 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1025 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Bucharest, 12 May (TASS) -- The 16th session of the interparliamentary commission on coordinating cooperation between the CEMA member-countries and the SFRY in the sphere of equipment for atomic power stations opened in Buchares today. Taking part in it are representatives from Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Cuba, Poland, Romania, the USSR, the CSSR and also the SFRY. The Soviet delegation is headed by I.S. Silayev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

Participants at the session will discuss the progress of the fulfillment of the integrated program for the scientific and technical progress of CEMA member-countries up to the year 2000. Also on the agenda and of priority interest is the discussion of issues relating to the development of nuclear power engineering in CEMA member-countries, multifaceted international specialization and cooperation in production and mutual supplies of equipment for atomic stations, a program of work for further enhancing safety at atomic power stations, and other matters.

GERASIMOV FOREIGN MINISTRY NEWS CONFERENCE 12 MAY

U.S. Draft Arms Treaty

LD121608 Moscow TASS in English 1503 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 12 TASS -- "The Soviet side is attentively studying the draft treaty on strategic offensive arms which the U.S. delegation has submitted at the talks in Geneva," Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the Information Directorate of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said at a briefing for journalists here today.

"The U.S. draft treaty", he said, "really reflects the Reykjavik accords on reducing strategic offensive arms by half, as was stated by United States President Ronald Reagan. The draft treaty also records quantitative parameters for limiting the types of weapons which were spoken of in Reykjavik, i.e., for cutting all strategic weapon delivery vehicles down to 1,600 units."

"However," the spokesman for the Soviet Foreign Ministry pointed out, "not everything which was agreed upon in Reykjavik about strategic offensive arms has found embodiment in the draft treaty submitted by the U.S. delegation."

"Moreover, on a number of aspects the Soviet side sees a departure from the Reykjavik understandings. Therefore one cannot agree with President Reagan that the Soviet side's misgivings have been taken into account in this draft treaty."

In this connection Gennadiy Gerasimov pointed out that, although an evaluation of the draft treaty would be made later, five preliminary remarks could be made on that score already now.

"First: A period during which strategic offensive arms should be cut down by half is extended by the U.S. side from five years, as was specified in Reykjavik, to seven years".

"Second: The fact that the draft treaty includes provisions on establishing sublimits on strategic offensive arms contradicts what was spoken of in Reykjavik. The sublimits are aimed at upsetting the Soviet strategic triad and its structure. This is detrimental to the security ofthe Soviet Union".

"Third: The draft treaty does not mention a reduction in long-range sea-launched cruise missiles".

"Fourth: The question of further actions of the sides in reducing strategic offensive arms remains open".

"Fifth: The U.S. draft treaty does not take into account the objectively existing interconnection between a reduction in strategic offensive arms and the prevention of an arms race in outer space and the consolidation of the regime of the ABM Treaty."

"The Soviet side holds that without solving the problem of preventing an arms race in outer space it is impossible to set about reducing offensive arms. Of importance is also the provision that if under accords on cuts in strategic offensive arms any of the sides would decide to begin practical development of a space-based anti-missile defence system, the other side would have a right to consider itself free from observing obligations on reducing strategic offensive arms."

"At the talks in Geneva," the spokesman for the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs said, "there is the Soviet draft document entitled 'The Key Provisions of an Agreement'. The draft document fully corresponds to the Reykjavik understandings and is aimed at achieving accords acceptable to both sides on 50 percent cuts in strategic offensive arms with the guarantee that the agreement will not be undermined by the orbiting of weapons."

FRG Disarmament Stand

LD121643 Moscow TASS in English 1616 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 12 TASS -- A spokesman for the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, commenting on the speech delivered in the Bundestag by the chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG), the speech in which he made a government statement on disarmament issues, pointed out that the FRG's overall approach to these issues had given rise to surprise in the Soviet Union.

"On the one hand," the spokesman said, "the chancellor spoke of the need for a new thinking and new actions in the field of arms control. On the other, he praised 'nuclear deterrence' to which, in his view, there is no alternative in the near future."

"The government of the FRG has repeatedly stated its intention to act as a reliable, predictable and trustworthy partner. Therefore the Soviet Union expected that the FRG would declare in favour of specific steps aimed at lowering the level of military confrontation in Europe. The more so as the Soviet initiatives had been worked out with due regard for the opinion of West European countries, including the FRG."

"However, having declared on the whole for concluding an agreement on medium-range missiles as soon as possible, the chancellor practically evaded a reply to the Soviet proposal on eliminating shorter-range missiles on the continent as well. Only recently these missiles were declared by Bonn to be the main threat to Europe in the event of elimination of medium-range missiles."

"Judging by pronouncements by officials and the press of a number of NATO countries," the spokesman for the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs pointed out, "those countries think of plans to develop an anti-missile defence system for Western Europe in conjunction with the U.S. SDI programme."

"If those designs are implemented, yet another major direction would open up in the arms race. Efforts to strengthen security, particularly European one, would be undermined. Such kind of development efforts being made together with the U.S. SDI programme obviously circumvent the 1972 Soviet-U.S. ABM Treaty."

'Jaruzelski Plan'

LD121720 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1555 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Moscow, 12 May (TASS) -- The Soviet Union sees the new proposals of the PPR, which received the name "Jaruzelski Plan" as an important contribution to the joint efforts of socialist countries aimed at consolidating peace and security in Europe, stated Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the Information Department of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He spoke here today at the briefing for newsmen.

This is a plan for reducing armaments and strengthening confidence in the central European zone on the territory of nine European states, although this number can be increased. According to the opinion of the Polish side, noted Gennadiy Gerasimov, this is both a plan and a program, the essence of which is the gradual withdrawal of jointly agreed types of operational and tactical nuclear weapons and conventional armaments, primarily those with the greatest strike capacity and accuracy, which could be used for a surprise attack. The plan envisages thorough verification and monitoring measures [mery proverki i kontrolya]. Along with this, the "Jaruzelski Plan" proposes to make the military doctrines of the two opposing blocs purely defensive.

The implementation of the new Polish initiative would, in our view, the representative of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs stressed, assist in reducing the level of military confrontation on the European Continent, strengthening trust among the European countries, and advancing on the road to disarmament.

This proposal is also very important in the context of the development of pan-European process.

Talks in Thailand

LD121520 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1347 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 12 TASS -- Foreign Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, Chief Marshal of the Air Force Sitthi Sawetsila, who is currently on an official visit in Moscow, declared on behalf of the ASEAN member countries for the development of relations between the association's member countries and the Soviet Union, said Gennadiy Gerasimov, chief of the Information Directorate of the USSR Foreign Ministry, addressing today a briefing for Soviet and foreign newsmen. In the course of the talks with the USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze the sides pointed out that they have an understanding of such global problems as disarmament, elimination of nuclear arsenals, prevention of militarisation of outer space, and putting an end to nuclear tests.

During discussion of the situation in Southeast Asia, in particular of the Cambodian issue, the USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman noted, the Soviet side put forward the opinion that the policy of national reconciliation and accord [soglasiye] the leadership of the People's Republic of Kampuchea is pursuing provides the basis for political settlement. In the course of the discussion, the Thai minister was told that any solution must meet the interests of the Cambodia people, and any solution without the participation of the present leadership of the country would be a solution built on sand.

PRAVDA CARRIES GERASIMOV STATEMENT ON U.S. TESTS

PM111537 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 May 87 Second Edition p 4

[Untitled article under the general heading "USSR Foreign Ministry Spokesman's Statement"]

[Text] A 7 May briefing for Soviet and foreign journalists was devoted to questions of current politics.

G.I. Gerasimov, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Information Directorate told correspondents that competent Sovit bodies have thoroughly checked the results of the analysis of samples of atmospheric aerosols taken outside U.S. territory in the period from February 20 to 25.

Radioactive isotopes have been detected in the samples. Their existence in the atmosphere can only be attributed to a nuclear explosion. The composition of isotopes in the samples showed that their emergence had not been due to an accident at an atomic power plant. Besides, no country except the United States conducted nuclear explosions in the period immediately before the sample-taking.

The available data made it unequivocally clear that radioactive substances spotted outside the United States were a result of nuclear explosions detonated at the Nevada test site on February 3 and 11, 1987.

Similarly, a radioactive discharge into the atmosphere was recorded when a U.S. nuclear explosion was carried out 18 March. The facts enumerated are violations of the 1963 Moscow Treaty banning nuclear weapons tests in the atmosphere, outer space and underwater.

The Soviet Government resolutely denounced the U.S.'s violation of its international treaty commitments, said the Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman. The U.S. side's attention was repeatedly drawn in the past to similar cases of radioactive fallout carried beyond U.S. national territory. The reasons the U.S. Government, shortly after the detection of radioactivity in the atmosphere as a result of the February, 1987 U.S. nuclear explosions, blamed the Soviet Union for the violations are becoming obvious.

The Soviet Union reaffirms its readiness to resolve in a cardinal way the problems of nuclear testing by banning it once and for all. This step would preclude similar incidents in the future.

The U.S.' stubborn unwillingness to agree to the termination of nuclear blasts conducted with a view to developing [otrabotka] new types of nuclear weapons, including under the SDI program, is blocking advancement along this major direction of restricting the arms race.

COMPARISON OF GERASIMOV STATEMENT ON U.S., PAKISTAN

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 8 May carries in its Second Edition on page 4 under the general heading "USSR Foreign Ministry Spokesman's Statement" a report on Gennadiy Gerasimov's statement on ties between the United States and Pakistan. The PRAVDA report has been compared with the Moscow TASS English version published in the 8 May Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page CC 2, revealing the following variations:

Paragraph one and two read in PRAVDA: As is known, the United States allocates a special role to Pakistan in its military-strategic plans with regard to Asia. It uses its territory as a bridgehead for exerting direct military pressure on the states of south and southwest Asia and for waging the undeclared war against democratic Afghanistan.

The United States supplies Pakistan with very modern types of arms: nuclear-capable F-16 aircraft, Stinger missiles, radioelectronic apparatus, and other means. It is not without external assistance that Pakistan now has the possibility of creating an atom bomb -- which fact has been openly stated by President Ziaul Haq of Pakistan. But the matter was not confined to this. Thus, reports began to appear recently on talks between Washington and Islamabad about the delivery to Pakistan of AWACS planes which would be handled by U.S. military personnel. (rewording)

Paragraph five, line one reads in PRAVDA: new attempt to sharply heighten tension in... (adding "sharply")

Paragraph five, line four reads in PRAVDA: intention to further complicate relations between Pakistan ...(substituting "complicate" for "undermine")

PRAVDA REVIEW ON EUROMISSILES, IRANGATE, INDIA

PM130845 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 May 87 Second Edition p 4

["International Review" by Tomas Kolesnichenko]

[Text] Two Approaches [subhead]

Yesterday we celebrated a great holiday -- Victory Day. It is 42 years since that unforgettable day when silence suddenly descended on Europe after the bloodiest war in human history. A new generation has grown up, one that has not known war and has only studied it in textbooks. But no one is forgotten, nothing is forgotten. For the sake of the memory of the dead and for the sake of the future of the living it is necessary to ensure that Europe and the whole world are forever rid of the threat of what would now be total annihilation. Time is of the essence, since our European home has beome the biggest and most explosive nuclear weapons dump.

The Soviet proposals on medium-range missiles opened up, for the first time in fact, the real prospect of the destruction of an entire class of nuclear missiles. To take advantage of this opportunity would be to take an important step in ridding Europe of nuclear arsenals. So the attitude toward the medium-range missiles problem today is a kind of "moment of truth": Anyone can see who is prepared for new thinking in the nuclear age, for disarmament and a reduction in the level of armaments to reasonable sufficiency, and who is continuing to gamble on the arms race and on military-technological rivalry.

How do things stand today? To be blunt, the situation is not simple. The West, above all the United States, is full of "optimistic" prognoses, even saying that there is nothing to worry about -- an agreement is "just around the corner." At the same time, Washington and its chief allies are gradually piling up more and more obstacles. The purpose of them is to subject the mutual understanding reached in Reykjavik to revision and secure a one-sided military advantage. The same intention is evident in the U.S. draft treaty presented at the Geneva talks.

Take, for example, the question of operational and tactical missiles, which we are proposing to reduce to zero simultaneously with the "Zero option" on medium-range missiles in Europe. How many words and how much paper has Washington used to demonstrate that the Soviet advantage in operational and tactical missiles is the obstacle to the achievement of an agreement on the whole range of medium-range nuclear forces in Europe. But when we proposed the destruction of all operational and tactial missiles in Europe the United States immediately backtracked. Now it is advocating "equal levels," that is, the buildup of its own missiles, a new "arms upgrading." In order to retain its nuclear missile potential in Europe, its wants to "turn" the U.S. medium-range missiles into operational and tactical missiles.

So the United States is proposing that the Pershing-2s should not be removed from the FRG, but merely that one stage of the missile should be taken away and the electronic unit replaced and that is all: The Pershing-2 becomes the Pershing-1B. What kind of a reduction is this? Moreover, it is known (special tests have been carried out at Martin Marietta plants) that the missile can be turned back into a Pershing-2 in literally 48 hours, in fact it can be assembled at the actual launch installation.

Washington will not hear of the elimination of U.S. warheads for the West German Pershing-1A missiles, which fall into the operational and tactical missile category, having a range of more than 700 km. They are "not ours," they say -- but the warheads are theirs, and what we are talking about is not missiles, but warheads which, along with all operational and tactical missiles, must be removed from Europe.

The U.S. proposal on the actual medium-range missile elimination process also sounds highly illogical. Wouldn't an equal percentage reduction be fair? And everyone can see that in view of the number of SS-20s, our reduction in this case would be larger than the U.S. reduction. But this is not enough for Washington, you see. It would like to "wait" until the overall levels are comparable -- and then only the USSR would dismantle its missiles under minute U.S. verification. It would be far more logical to reduce Soviet and U.S. missiles simultaneously by 50 percent. The verification system would operate immediately for both sides, and it would be a tough system, even involving verification at enterprises where the missiles are produced.

But here is the U.S. Administration's concept of "freedom to site" the remaining 100 warheads -- ours in Asia and theirs on the territory of the United States. One has to observe in this case the principle that one another's territory, as well as the territory of Western Europe, cannot be reached. We accept this, but Washington wants to retain the right to deploy its missiles in Alaska. Why, one wonders, should be accept the emergence of an additional threat to Siberia?

These and other U.S. counterproposals are being put forward to the strident accompaniment provided by devotees of "Atlantic solidarity" on both sides of the ocean. Every day brings new "doubts" and calls for "caution" and "restraint," since the "zero option" only benefits the Russians, apparently. Meanwhile couriers are shuttling between Washington and the NATO capitals -- they are pretending that they are "conferring," but, in fact, they are temporizing. In the FRG the word is that Bonn will work out its attitude toward the Soviet proposals "no sooner than late fall." The West German paper GENERAL-ANZEIGER notes that "the Bonn coalition and the U.S. Government are of the opinion that the Soviet Union's 'zero option' proposals on operational and tactical missiles with a range of between 500 and 1,000 km is unacceptable." The other day Chancellor Kohl effectively confirmed this position.

Kohl also promised that an "all-European response" to the Soviet proposals would be worked out. It would be more correct to call it a response by not the most far-sighted figures in Western Europe who cannot imagine their continent without nuclear weapons, which is what the peoples are demanding. They are scarcely entitled to speak for the "whole of Europe," where the spectrum of political opinions even at government level is much wider than the NATO diehard line. For example, the resolution adopted the other day at the meeting of EEC countries' socialist and social democratic parties sound quite different.

What makes this particularly important is the fact that the fervent Atlanticists, egged on by Washington, are currently searching for new options to fill the "breach" that they say could occur in the nuclear marriage between Western Europe and the United States in the event of the withdrawal of Pershing and cruise missiles from the continent. It is a question of setting up a West European missile defense system. The idea of this homegrown ABM system is closely associated with SDI, and is based on the U.S. Patriot missile and other U.S. space facilities. Since the ABM Treaty does not extend to Europe, there are opportunities for testing SDI there. Judging by what the U.S. delegation brought to round eight of the talks on nuclear and space armaments, which began this week in Geneva, the United States is continuing its "Star Wars" program, is drifting farther and farther away from Reykjavik, and is hardening its position. [paragraph continues]

We, however, took yet another constructive step in Geneva, when we proposed agreeing on the "key provisions of agreements" on a number of major disarmament problems, including strategic offensive armaments and the strengthening of the ABM Treaty setup. Together with the medium-range missile treaty, this paves the way for political accords between the USSR and the United States at the highest level [na vysshen urovne].

So, if you glance at the international palette as a whole, you see a plethora of colors. The Soviet Union is demonstrating a willingness to seek compromises and solutions. This offers a historic chance to create conditions for a nuclear-free world. But reciprocal steps by the U.S. side are needed if the chance is not to be missed. And there have not been any yet.

Covert and Overt [subhead]

Despite its slow crawl, the U.S. legal snail has reached the home stretch. After long delays, the special Senate and House of Representatives commission in the U.S. Congress has started the public hearings in connection with the notorious political scandal known as "Irangate." Some 26 senators and congressmen are questioning 50 witnesses in order, the papers write, to "reveal the full picture of the scandal." The main question is to what extent was President Reagan personally involved in the affair. Did he know about it from the start or was he in fact ignorant of what his assistants were doing in the "White House basement"? The hearings are planned to last until the end of July, but no one will be surprised if they go on for many more months. After all, it is the biggest political show since "Watergate." No wonder the press has been allotted twice as many seats as the visitors in the place the hearings are taking place. Indeed the journalists will endeavor to ensure that viewers and readers do not get bored by spicing the inquiry with sensational details.

These are the rules of the game of U.S. "democracy." The administration washing its dirty linen in public is by no means going to threaten the United States' foundations, and it will scarcely reveal the full picture of abuses and lawless actions taking place in Washington's corridors of power. THE NEW YORK TIMES cites the following words by a congressman participating in the investigation: "It is all disgraceful, but I think Reagan will emerge from this whole scandal an innocent idler who knew nothing." The ruling circles cannot afford a repetition of the upheaval "Watergate" caused in the country, although everyone knows that the "Iran-contra" scandal is much bigger than the Nixon affair. Yet there may be surprises. In fact, all the ins and outs of U.S. foreign policy have effectively been revealed and the true face of neoglobalism has been laid bare. "By starting the hearings, we have the opportunity to ask ourselves the question: Was the entire operation the result of an abuse of power by several people or the failure of the Reagan doctrine as a whole?" Democratic Senator John Kerry asks He replies: "This doctrine is based on the premise that the United States must help 'freedom fighters' in any part of the world if it contributes to the struggle against communism...I think that we are witnessing the failure of the Reagan doctrine as a whole." This is exactly what highly influential forces in the United States today will not permit. With their support, Reagan is trying, despite all the exposes connected with the contras, to add more fuel to the undeclared war against Nicaragua. While Congress "studies" how many millions of dollars found their way illegally to the contras and through what channels, the President has started a "new battle" with the legislators for the allocation of $105 million to arm the anti-Sandinista gangs in the next fiscal year beginning 1 October. Speaking the other day on Ellis Island, where the celebrated Statue of Liberty stands, R. Reagan again swore that "as long as he is President: the United States will always give aid to the Somozistas. He came down hard on the Soviet Union, ascribing to it precisely what the Washington administration is engaged in — aggression and interference in Latin American affairs and subversive activity against other peoples.

The acute attack of Reagan's chronic anticommunism is no accident. He is as it were appealing to Congress and to the public -- don't touch the contras, better look at what those "horrible Soviets" are doing. His national security advisor Carlucci even called the contras the "totally innocent victims" of "Irangate," and, therefore, Congress "must weigh up all the arguments in favor of aiding the contras, distancing themselves from the Iran affair."

Time will tell whether such clumsy maneuvers will help the White House. In any event, THE WASHINGTON POST notes, "prominent Republicans are now saying that hopes are now being pinned on there being no more important revelations, so the hearings will soon be forgotten." Especially as former CIA Director W. Casey -- chief protagonist in the Irangate scandal -- has taken with him to the grave most of the secrets of the Reagan court.

The Plot Against India [subhead]

Simply to say that internal and external reaction is involved in intrigues against Indian progressive forces is to say nothing new. This antagonism has occurred throughout its independent history. It is governed by economic difficulties built in by the colonial past and is associated with ethnic and religious discord and demographic pressures. The steadier on its feet the great country becomes and the stronger its voice becomes in the international arena, the more desperate becomes the resistance of the enemies of an independent, integral, and successfully developing India.

But what is happening there at the moment is evident of a plot directly against the R. Gandhi government. On this occassion the destabilization plans concentrate on compromising the prime minister by fanning the flames of religious fanaticism, accusing the government of being "incapable" of governing the state, and thus causing general discontent. The external factors, particularly the supplies of modern U.S. weapons to Pakistan, form a complex knot.

Thus, both inside and outside the country there is a direct threat to the republic's democratic constitutional foundations. "The destabilization of the situation in the republic," R. Gandhi said in the state of Tamil Nadu the other day, "is being used to pressure the Indian Government into abandoning its course toward strengthening democracy, developing the national economy, and maintaining India's defense capability at a high level."

In recent days the crisis, ostensibly at least, has abated. The president has publicly stated that all the talk about his intention to remove R. Gandhi from the post of prime minister is "totally without sense and foundation." But the roots of the plot have not been destroyed. The campaign organized by right-wing parties, in particular the Bharatiya Janata Party, continues. Its aim is to link R. Gandhi personally to abuses by certain government ministers who are accused of corruption. Calls for the prime minister's resignation continue to be made at specially organized right-wing rallies. The situation may heat up even further because the country's president is due for reelection soon.

All this, the Indian press notes, demands heightened vigilance on the part of the country's public. At this trying time the people of India and its friends are actively supporting the government headed by R. Gandhi and its course geared to consolidating all the country's patriotic forces and strengthening its national sovereignty and security. The subversive and reactionary forces' efforts to turn India into neocolonialism's lickspittle, a statement by the ruling Indian National Congress (Indira) stresses, will be given a due rebuff.

REAGAN 'EXASPERATED' AT DEFENSE BUDGET IMPASSE

LD122148 Moscow TASS in English 2046 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Washington May 12 TASS -- TASS correspondent Andrey Fedyashin reports:

President Ronald Reagan of the United States made it clear today that his administration was exasperated by the endeavours of the Democratic majority in Congress to stop the uncontrolled increase in appropriations for the Pentagon and to compel the White House legislatively to make, at last, specific positive steps in the field of arms control.

Appropriate amendments have already been endorsed by the U.S. House of Representatives which continues to discuss its version of a military spending bill for the 1988 fiscal year. On Wednesday a similar debate will begin in the Senate as well.

During a meeting with the Republican leadership of Congress in the White House on Tuesday, the President threatened to veto any final congressional military budget bill which would not meet the administration's requirements.

He said he would have to veto any legislation which would jeopardise U.S. efforts in the field of arms cuts or undermine U.S. national security.

The greatest discontent of the White House has been aroused by the endorsement by the U.S. House of Representatives last week of amendments urging the administration to observe the strategic arms limits set by the SALT-2 treaty and strictly to adhere to the provisions of the 1972 Soviet-U.S. ABM Treaty.

HOUSE REJECTS INCREASED FUNDING FOR SDI

LD130146 Moscow TASS in English 2233 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Washington May 12 TASS -- The House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress today rejected by the overwhelming majority of votes the attempt of the Reagan administration to get an increase in the appropriations for the Reagan "Star Wars" programme. Congressmen blocked the amendment which envisaged the increase of the funds for SDI in the 1988 financial year to 4.1 billion dollars. The House Armed Services Committee suggested that 3.6 billion dollars be appropriated for the purpose. It is characteristic that during the voting against this amendment 55 congressmen from the Republican Party voted alongside Democrats. The House of Representatives continues discussing separate aspects of its version of the bill on the United States military expenditures for the next financial year. The debates on SDI programme are held today. [sentence as received]

SECORD TESTIMONY ON IRANIAN VISITORS NOTED

LD122131 Moscow TASS in English 2040 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] New York May 12 TASS -- TASS correspondent Vladimir Kikilo reports:

A group of Iranian officials was secretly brought into the United States in September last year within the framework of the 'Iran-contra' operation which was being carried out by the White House.

They had secret talks with representatives of President Reagan. This has been disclosed by retired lieutenant general of the U.S. Air Force Richard Secord, one of the key figures in the Iran-Contra operation.

In an interview with the ABC TV network, Mr Secord said that at hearings in Congress last week he had not reported this in his testimony owing to 'lack of time'.

According to Mr Secord, in summer 1986 together with his business "partner" Albert Hakim and with the knowledge of the White House and the CIA he established a 'second communications channel' with Iranaian official representatives following the failure of the secret mission to Tehran by Robert McFarlane, former assistant to the President for national security affairs.

Mr Secord said the Iranians had been invited to pay a secret visit to the United States to meet with direct representatives of the President.

According to Mr Secord, he had been responsible for ensuring security and secrecy of the trip. The Iranians had been brought to the United States on a private plane which had taken off from the Middle East and landed at Washington's Dulles Airport.

Over there they were met by American officials. CIA officers saw to it that the Iranians had no problems getting through the customs and passport control.

Mr Secord said the talks which had been held in the administrative building housing the staff of the White House had continued for several days.

Lieutenant Colonel Oliver North, a staff member of the National Security Council, a representative of the CIA, and Mr Secord had taken part in the talks.

On one of the days, a usual guided tour of the White House had been even arranged for the Iranians late in the evening. The tour was conducted personally by North, Mr Secord said.

According to Mr Secord, although President Reagan had not been in the White House at the moment, he had known about the Iranians' stay and had been fully informed of the results of the talks.

Mr Secord said the main purpose of the talks had been to prepare a high-level meeting between·the two countries. Yet another batch of weapons -- 500 anti-tank TOW missiles -- had been delivered to Iran in autumn last year in development of the plan endorsed by the President.

In response to that the Iranian side had promised to render assistance in the release of the American hostages being held by terrorists in Beirut.

John Poindexter, assistant to the President for national security affairs, North, and the CIA had planned to bring the State Department into the operation at a later stage. The State Department had known nothing about the Iranians' visit and about the 'second communications channel'.

According to Mr Secord, the administration had sought a high-level meeting and the restoration of diplomatic relations with Iran in the future.

However, those plans had been foiled by the November exposures of the White House's secret operations.

MURAKHOVSKIY, U.S. BUSINESSMEN DISCUSS COOPERATION

LD121940 Moscow TASS in English 1925 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 12 TASS -- Today Vsevolod Murakhovskiy, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, chairman of the USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee, received prominent representatives of U.S. business circles, Dwayne Andreas and James Giffen.

Some matters aimed at widening economic cooperation between the two countries were discussed.

Special attention was paid to deepening contacts in the field of agro-industrial production.

The conversation was held in a businesslike atmosphere and was of constructive nature.

U.S. ADMIRAL 'DISTURBING WATERS' IN PHILIPPINES

LD061401 Moscow TASS in English 1315 GMT 6 May 87

["Why is Admiral Lyons Disturbing Waters?" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow May 6 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Askold Biryukov writes:

I am not sure if Admiral James Lyons, commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, is an enthusiastic angler but I am positive he knows well that the catch is bigger when one fishes in troubled waters.

It is obviously his awareness of the fisherman's dictum that explains his flurry of activity to stir up political waters in the Philippines.

The admiral recently visited the Zamboanga Port on Mindanao Island to inspect the brand-new hospital ship Mercy, which had arrived here.

Without asking why that giant floating clinic capable of handling 1,000 emergency "patients" a day was suddenly needed off Philippine shores, let us just take a look at the admiral's impressions from the inspection. They are noteworthy indeed.

The admiral spoke of a "Soviet military threat" which, he alleged, was hanging over that part of the Asian-Pacific region and compelled the United States to keep its fleet there, including off the Philippines.

He also said he thought the Soviet Union was supporting Philippine rebels by all means.

Thinking is not prohibited to anybody, even American admirals. The never-to-be-forgotten Baron Muenchausen also used to think, or more precisely, to think up all manner of stories. But the baron's tales were harmless and funny, which cannot be said of Admiral Lyons'.

A fleet commander, however, is an official person representing his administration and if he indulges in making direct attacks against a third country, which are contrary to the position of the Government of the Philippines where he is a guest, he ought to proceed not from lies and fantasies but from hard facts.

Only this is what Admiral Lyons does not have at all.

His provocative objective is plain. It is to underline Soviet-Philippine relations and besmirch the clear-cut policy of the USSR in the Asian-Pacific region, whose guidelines were set by Mikhail Gorbachev in his Vladivostok speech last July.

Provocative intentions are the only explanation also for another of the admiral's shows of "concern" for the Philippines, namely his warning that the Soviet Union would be attempting to penetrate that country by offering all kind of cooperation projects.

The admiral is not original in his slanderous assertions. He only repeated allegations by provocateurs from U.S. secret services, who have long been spreading rumors devised to cause tension in the Philippines and thus furnish a pretext for consolidating and increasing U.S. military presence and stepping up interference in the domestic affairs of that country.

It is significant that Admiral Lyons sang his anti-Soviet oratoria in Zamboanga in effect just as a U.S. naval task force led by the aircraft-carriers Midway and Constellation with a total of 20,000 servicemen on board dropped anchor in Subic Bay.

In the Philippines the fact is linked directly with the forthcoming May 11 congressional elections there and with Washington's attempts to exert direct pressure to make sure that the Philippine parliament should include as many people suiting it as possible.

PRAVDA VIEWS IMPLICATIONS OF HART WITHDRAWAL

PM131156 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 May 87 Second Edition p 5

[Correspondent V. Gan report under the rubric "Behind the Scenes": "Gossip Wins the Day"]

[Excerpt] Washington -- [Passage omitted] Hart's withdrawal from the contest has struck a serious blow against the Democratic Party, putting its reputation with the voters in jeopardy. Moreover a fundamentally new situation has arisen, which the press describes as "the most unpredictable situation in recent years, with a lack of strong candidates and even of assumptions as to who they could be." In all there are approximately eight contenders or potential contenders. But the trouble is that the vast majority of them are unknown outside their own electoral districts or states. This is a very difficult problem when it comes to conducting a national campaign, which has to be founded on a national base.

There is open rejoicing in the Republican camp: Hart was regarded as a real and very serious rival capable of attracting the voters, who are increasingly turning away from the "Reagan revolution." But there is another, perhaps even more important political "plus" for the Republican Party -- the skillfully whipped up scandal over Hart has now filled the television screens and newspapers, pretty well crowding out the investigations that have begun in Congress into the administration's really dirty affair, known as "Iran-contragate." Although all this will hardly affect its outcome, it could certainly help the Republicans to escape coming under fire for adventurism and deception of the country...

At this point the election campaign is hanging in the air. As THE WASHINGTON POST writes, "months will pass before the new disposition becomes clear." That is, of course, true. But it is also true that stories like this one become established in the voters' memories, constantly reminding them of the value of "democracy" in America.

TALYZIN RECEIVES YAO YILIN FOR COOPERATION TALKS

LD121528 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1343 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Moscow, 12 May (TASS) -- The second session of the Soviet-Chinese Commission on Economic, Trade, and Scientific-Technical Cooperation began in Moscow today. The Soviet delegation is headed by Nikolay Talyzin, candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. The Chinese delegation is led by Yao Yilin, member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and vice premier of the PRC State Council.

Under examination are matters connected with the fulfillment of accords resulting from the long-term Soviet-Chinese interparliamentary agreements on trade, economic, and scientific-technical cooperation, as well as the prospects for further developing such cooperation, of which both sides are speaking out in favor.

The discussion is proceeding in a business-like, constructive atmosphere. The work of the commission will continue.

Agreement Reached

LD121321 Moscow World Service in English 1100 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] The Soviet-Chinese Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation opened its second session in Moscow. The delegations are led by the first deputy prime minister, Nikolay Talyzin, and deputy premier of the State Council, Yao Yilin. Participants in the negotiations will sum up the outcome of last year's cooperation and determine prospects for developing it.

The two countries are successfully implementing their agreement which provides for Soviet aid in building and reconstructing 24 facilities in China's energy production, smelting, coal extraction, chemical and other industries. Last year, bilateral commodity exchanges increased by almost 15 percent.

JAPANESE CORRESPONDENT EXPELLED FROM PRC

PM121327 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 May 87 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Expelled from the Country"]

[Text] It has been announced that the PRC Ministry of State Security has expelled from China Suizu Henmi, a correspondent for Japan's KYODO news agency, for collecting information on China -- including information of a secret nature -- using impermissible methods and for disseminating "fabricated reports" about the PRC.

ZHAO ZIYANG REITERATES STAND ON PALESTINIANS

LD130912 Moscow TASS in English 0825 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] Beijing May 13 TASS -- Zhao Ziyang, acting general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, premier of the PRC State Council, said that China would further support the just struggle waged by the Palestinian and other Arab peoples.

"Whatever may happen, China will not change its stand," he told a meeting with the official delegation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation staying here.

The Chinese Government supports the PLO's right to participation in the planned international conference on the Middle East as the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people on an equal footing with its other participants, and also in all the measures taken in order to resolve the Middle East problem, he said.

PROSECUTOR NOTES NEED TO COMBAT ECONOMIC CRIME

PM081023 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 May 87 Morning Edition p 4

[Yu. Savenkov report under the rubric "From the IZVESTIYA Teletype Room": "Stepping Up Surveillance"]

[Text] Beijing -- According to XINHUA, Yang Yichen, procurator general of the PRC Supreme People's Procuratorate, has said that the main task of prosecuting organs at various levels during 1987 will be to combat economic crimes, which does not mean, however, that the fight against other criminal offenses will be in any way weakened. He stressed that of the 13,800 major economic crimes investigated by prosecuting organs last year, 700 were committed by cadre workers at district level and above.

The procurator general stressed the importance of intensifying surveillance to ensure fulfillment of the law and effective guarantees of citizens' democratic rights and legal interests.

PAPER CITED ON STRENGTHENING, DEVELOPING SOCIALISM

LD122100 Moscow TASS in English 2030 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Beijing May 12 TASS -- "Pursuing the policy of expanding relations with the outside world, we cannot depart from the socialist path. On the contrary, the aim of the policy is to strengthen and develop socialism," points out the newspaper "GUANGMING RIBAO", the organ of the CPC Central Committee. The policy is an "important strategic measure for accelerating the process of socialist modernization of China", without which it is "impossible to achieve aim of the country's economic development up to the end of the current century, defined by the 12th CPC Congress."

Expansion of relations with the outside world, "GUANGMING RIBAO" writes, will make it possible to use available financial funds and technology on international markets to speed up the process of China's socialist modernization. At the same time the republic should remember that the aim of the policy conducted by us is to strengthen abilities of the country to rely on its own forces and to promote the development of the national economy. This policy is not a departure from the socialist way, since it is being pursued in a planned way and in line with definite principles.

Touching on the problems of struggle against the influence of bourgeois ideology, the newspaper points out, that "we must resolutely block the infiltration of decadent ideology of capitalism and wage a resolute struggle against economic crimes. We need to use the advanced scientific and technical experience of other countries and not slavish imitation of the capitalist system, the way of life and ideology".

DOLGIKH DELEGATION BEGINS VISIT TO DPRK

Dolgikh Departs Moscow

LD101904 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 10 May 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] A USSR Supreme Soviet delegation today left Moscow for Pyongyang on an official friendly visit at the invitation of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly. The delegation is led by Vladimir Dolgikh, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and deputy to the USSR Supreme Soviet.

At the airport, the delegation was seen off by Comrade Talyzin and other officials.

Arrives in Pyongyang

LD110856 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 11 May 87

[Text] A USSR Supreme Soviet delegation arrived in Pyongyang today for an official friendly visit at the invitation of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly. The delegation, is headed by Vladimir Ivanovich Dolgikh, candidate member of the Politburo, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet. At the airport the delegation was met by Chong Chun-ki, candidate member of the KWP Central Committee Politburo and deputy premier of the DPRK State Administration Council, and other officials. Among those who met the delegation was Comrade Shubnikov, the USSR ambassador to the DPRK.

Moscow Radio on Visit

SK130219 Moscow International Service in Korean 1130 GMT 11 May 87

[Text] A USSR Supreme Soviet delegation headed by Comrade Dolgikh, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and deputy to the USSR Supreme Soviet, has arrived in Pyongyang for an official goodwill visit at the invitation of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly. [SPA].

Our station commentator (Viktorov) says: The fraternal friendship and miltifaceted cooperation which traditionally exist between the Soviet Union and the DPRK are strengthened and developed year after year.

The exchange of delegations, including parliamentary delegations of the two countries, significantly contribute to developing these friendly and cooperative relations.

The official goodwill visit to the Soviet Union in the spring of last year by the delegation of the DPRK SPA led by Comrade Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the SPA Standing Committee, was a shining milestone in the progressive development of the Soviet-Korean relations. At the talks and meetings with Soviet leaders, the Korean guests were briefed on the course of the implementation of the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress., The discussion on the international situation, the tours of some enterprises, and many meetings with the Soviet working people made the Korean guests even more clearly understand life in the Soviet Union and matters of interest for the Soviet people.

The regular exchange of information on the activities of the supreme state organs, the power organs' timely proposal of new tasks to strengthen the peace and security of the planet, and their formulation of the destination for their accomplishment help activate the two countries' effort in the struggle for peace and for the alleviation of tension.

Our countries know well that neither war nor nuclear buildup but only political solution can guarantee security.

The Soviet people extend invariable solidarity with the Korean people's just struggle to normalize the situation of the Korean peninsula and create a favorable condition for the democratic and peaceful reunification of the country.

The relations between the parliaments are an important form of the Soviet-Korean relations. The expansion of mutual cooperation in the economic and cultural fields as well as in international political issues is producing good results.

The parliamentary groups of the Soviet Union and the DPRK are successfully defending the interest of the cause of peace in the international community where the joint action of socialist countries is important.

In conclusion, the friendship between the Soviet and Korean peoples has overcome the trial of the times and has recently reached a new stage.

Mutual functions in the work of socialist creation is also being pushed ahead even more remarkably.

There is no doubt that the official goodwill visit to the DPRK by the USSR Supreme Soviet delegation led by Comrade Dolgikh, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the party Central Committee, will make a new and significant contribution to strengthening the fraternal relations between the Soviet Union and the DPRK.

Dolgikh Lays Wreaths

LD111041 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0752 GMT 11 May 87

[Text] Pyongyang, 11 May (TASS) -- The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation led by V.I. Dolgikh, candidate member of the Politburo, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet, which arrived today on an official friendly visit to the DPRK, laid wreaths at the Taesong Cemetery of revolutionaries and at the liberation monument in Pyongyang in honor of the servicemen of the Soviet Army who fell in battles for the liberation of Korea from the Japanese colonial yoke. A wreath was also laid at the monument to the Chinese people's volunteers who perished in the battles to repulse U.S. imperialism in Korea in the years 1950-53.

DPRK Holds Reception

LD111909 Moscow TASS in English 1848 GMT 11 May 87

[Text] Pyongyang May 11 TASS -- Today the delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet led by Vladimir Dolgikh, alternate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and deputy to the USSR Supreme Soviet, staying here at the invitation of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) on an official friendly visit, laid wreaths at the Tesongsan cemetery of revolutionaries and at the monument "Liberation". A wreath was also laid at the monument to Chinese people's volunteers who had died in battles, repulsing the aggression of the U.S. imperialists in Korea in 1950-1953.

Today the Central People's Committee of the DPRK gave a reception in honour of the delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Chong Chunk-ki, deputy premier of the DPRK Administration Council, said at the reception that the Korean people backed the Soviet peace proposals aimed at preventing space militarization, eliminating completely nuclear and chemical weapons before the end of the current century and at turning the Asian-Pacific region into a nuclear-free zone of peace and cooperation. He expressed confidence that the visit by the Soviet delegation would strengthen cooperation between the supreme bodies of power of the two countries and deepen traditional Soviet-Korean friendship.

In his speech of reply Vladimir Dolgikh said that the CPSU and the Soviet Government were confident that at present the priority in world politics should be given to saving human civilization from a nuclear disaster.

The Soviet Union, he pointed out, exerts persistent efforts to strengthen peace and security in Asia. The USSR proposed that a comprehensive approach be implemented to problems of Asian security. The essence of this approach lies in pooling efforts of all Asian states, irrespective of different social systems, for the sake of guaranteeing peace and stability in the region.

The Soviet Union hails the DPRK's initiatives on improving the situation on the Korean peninsula, including the proposal on turning it into a nuclear-free zone, which fully conforms to the spirit of times, pointed out the head of the Soviet delegation.

Delegation Visits Enterprise

LD121234 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0830 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] A USSR Supreme Soviet delegation, headed by Comrade Dolgikh, which is on an official friendly visit to the DPRK, today toured the country. The guests visited Mangyongdae, familiarized themselves with the work of one of the republic's leading enterprises -- the Taean heavy machine-building combine -- and viewed major hydraulic structures and the 8-km dam in the bay of the town of Namp'o on the country's western coastline. That same day the Soviet delegation returned to Pyongyang.

DPRK Coverage of Visit

For North Korean coverage of the visit to the DPRK by Vladimir Dolgikh, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, including his 11 May arrival, banquet speeches by Dolgikh and Pak Song-chol, member of the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee and DPRK vice president, and 12 May talks, see the 13 May North Korea section of the Asia & Pacific DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

PRAVDA: U.S. ARMS USED IN PAKISTANI ATTACKS ON DRA

PM121237 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 May 87 Second Edition p 4

[Correspondent V. Okulov report under the rubric "Report From 'Hot Spot'": "Troubled Skies"]

[Text] Kabul-Khowst, 6 May -- "There it is, the cursed thing," Ahmad Jan squatted down beside the missile and touched its metal casing with his slim fingers.

Bending over, I took a close look at the 1.5 meter projectile lying in the trodden dust of the yard. The stabilizer and nose cone were still intact. The body had been slightly damaged on impact. This U.S.-manufactured "Sidewinder" air to air missile had fallen without exploding. The Afghan fighter plane at which it had been fired had been making a training patrol flight in DRA airspace at a distance of just over 9 km from the Afghan-Pakistani border. A "Phantom" from the Pakistani Air Force had picked it up while over the territory of its own country. Air to air missiles were fired one after the other across the border deep into Afghanistan. One of them missed, but a second aircraft was hit. The pilot, Lieutenant Colonel Abdol Jamil, had time to eject and is now in the hospital.

A young peasant, Ahmad Jan, an inhabitant of the village of Surni-Kalayi (name as transliterated], which is in the Tani district in the Khowst region, was one of the witnesses of the attack: "I was working in the fields when I heard the sound of an aircraft, I could see that our side was being fired at. The missile fell a short distance away."

...I flew with a group of colleagues -- Soviet and foreign journalists -- into the Khowst region not without some qualms: Transport aircraft are regularly brought down here, close to the Afghan-Pakistani border.

This is the tragic chronicle of Khowst:

"On 9 February 1987 dushmans brought down a transport aircraft with a 'Stinger' missile. A total of 36 people were killed.

"On 30 March an Afghan AN-26 transport aircraft was attacked and brought down by a Pakistani F-16: 39 people died, including 2 children.

"On 21 April a transport helicopter was brought down close to the border."

I saw a considerable amount of corroded metal during the flight yesterday close to the border mountain of Turegaregar [name as transliterated] above the broad valley of the Kaitu River. Ahmad Khan, a teacher from the local school, and I wandered among the shattered fragments of the AN-26. We stumbled across shoes and charred pieces of the white material from which Afghan women sew their traditional festive dress. In the same numb state a teacher walked here one February day in search of the remains of his younger brother Yakub Shah, a Kabul student, who was returning from Khowst by aircraft after the holidays which he had spent with relatives.

"Afghan army subunits found the 'Islamic Party of Afghanistan' group led by Manon which brought down the aircraft with U.S. 'Stinger' missile," Ahmad Khan said, "and opened fire on them. The rebels fled and incurred some losses. But who will bring me back my brother?"

As a rule, retribution overtakes those who commit acts of piracy in the peaceful skies over the DRA. On 29 April, for example, one of two Pakistani F-16s which invaded the country's airspace was brought down by Afghan anti-aircraft defense forces over the Khowst region.

"As many as 20 violations of our airspace in the eastern regions of the DRA have been recorded this year," a representative of the Afghan Armed Forces told us in Khowst. "Pakistani 'Phantoms' which attack our transport aircraft and helicopters near Khowst airport are constantly taking off from the Miramshakh [name as transliterated] airfield, for example. And, as you know, DRA military transport aircraft carry a considerable number of civilian passengers and freight."

It is a well known fact that the United States is giving Pakistan military-economic aid to the tune of more than 4 billion dollars over a 6-year period. By the end of 1986 Washington had supplied Islamabad with 40 F-16 aircraft and plans to give it a further 60. Talks are now in progress on "leasing" Pakistan U.S. AWACS aircraft, which would make it possible to fire at airborne and other targets far beyond this country's limits. According to figures provided by Kabul, the dushmans have at their disposal a large number of mobile anti-aircraft missile complexes produced in the West, including more than 200 "Stinger" missiles. According to the U.S. press, the Afghan terrorists have been promised a further 600 of these missiles.

Attempts to commit acts of piracy in Afghan skies and increase tension along the Afghan border are evidence of the desire of the U.S. Administration and its partners in the region to resolve the Afghan issue by military means. This policy can hardly be seen as having a future. The experience of past years shows the reverse to be true.

"I want to be able to plow my field in peace without having to expect 'gifts' from heaven," the peasant Ahmad Jan told me, as he stood beside the U.S. missile in the dusty yard of a village in the Afghan region of Khowst.

PAKISTANI 'ARMED PROVOCATIONS' AGAINST DRA HIT

PM120901 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 May 87 First Edition p 3

[Report by correspondent Major A. Oliynik: "Interference Continues"]

[Text] Kabul-Khowst, 6 May -- Today the Khowst district, which is located near the Pakistani border, is one of the main fields of combat with dushman gang formations. More than 65 dushman detachments of the "Islamic Party of Afghanistan" have set up their bandit lair there. They comprise approximately 5,000 people equipped with the latest U.S.-, Pakstani-, and British-made weapons. Each group also has heavy armament, including portable Stinger surface-to-air missile complexes.

It should be pointed out that the counterrevolutionary leaders once wanted to create some kind of "free territory of Afghanistan" in the Khowst district and to form an Islamic government obedient to the West. But they always suffered defeat. By all accounts, the counterrevolutionary leaders have not abandoned their chimerical schemes even now, although the national dialogue has now been going on for 4 months in Afghanistan and a military truce is in effect. Despite this, dushman gangs are continuing to terrorize the local population, mining roads, and shelling Khowst, regional centers, and villages.

The bandits perpetrating monstrous atrocities against their own people are actively supported by the Pakistani military authorities. An official DRA Defense Ministry spokesman told journalists that there has been a sharp increase in the number of shellings of Afghan territory and peaceful villages since the middle of January of this year, that is, since the policy of national reconciliation in the country was announced. Pakistani Air Force F-16's have repeatedly encroached into Afghan airspace. The chief airfields from which they fly are at Peshawar, Miram Shah, Kohat, and Parachinar. The Pakistani airborne actions are directed primarily against civilian and transport aircraft carrying people and national economic freight to the Khowst district.

The following are irrefutable facts of barbarous actions by the Pakistani Air Force. A civilian aircraft with 32 passengers on board was downed in the region of Khowst 9 February this year. A similar barbarous action was committed 30 March in the region of Chamkani, where an AN-26 transport aircraft with 40 people on board, including 2 children, was downed. On 16 April Pakistani F-16 fighter-bombers shot up an Afghan Air Force aircraft. The pilot -- Lieutenant Colonel Abdul Dzhamil [name as published] -- ejected and parachuted to the ground, while the aircraft crashed into mountains. In all, the Pakistani Air Force has downed two civilian aircraft, four transport helicopters, and one combat aircraft in the Khowst region in recent months. On 29 April of this year two Pakistani Air Force F-16 fighter-bombers intruded into Afghan airspace in the region of Paktia Province. The aircraft failed to respond to warning signals from ground services of the DRA Air Defense Forces and Air Force and continued their provocative flight. DRA Air Defense means downed one of the air pirates over the Khowst district.

Pakistani officials claim to know nothing about Pakistani aircraft downed over Afghanistan or about the unexploded Sidewinder missile launched by an F-16 which fell on a village near Khowst. However, the facts attest otherwise....

A group of foreign journalists, including correspondents of the U.S. ABC-TV Company, AP and REUTERS, visited Khowst and nearby villages. They saw with their own eyes signs of barbarous devastation caused by Pakistani artillery shelling, visited the place where the Afghan transport aircraft had fallen, inspected the Sidewinder missile where it had fallen in the Tani region, and talked with many Afghan witnesses to those barbarous Pakistani crimes.

"The Afghan people indignantly condemn the Pakistani administration's military interference in our country's affairs," Mullah Gumadton [as published], chairman of the Khowst District National Recnciliation Extraordinary Commission, who has lost three sons over the war years, told foreign correspondents. "Instead of supporting the DRA Government's peace-loving policy -- the policy of national reconciliation -- Pakistan has sharply increased military aid to the dushmans, clearly to please U.S. imperialism, and embarked on the path of armed provocations. This is state terrorism in its most cynical and overt form."

IZVESTIYA CITES REPORT ON PAKISTANI NUCLEAR PURCHASE

PM120935 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 May 87 Morning Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Pakistan: Nuclear Equipment Purchased"]

[Text] Delhi, 6 May -- Pakistan has secretly bought the latest uranium enrichment equipment. According to a report published in the Indian newspaper THE HINDUSTAN TIMES today, this will enable Pakistan to produce 10 atom bombs a year.

Citing Western expert information, the newspaper notes that equipment which makes it possible to obtain 10 kg of enriched uranium annually is already in operation at Pakistan's nuclear center in Kahuta. This quantity is sufficient to produce one atom bomb. "The second complex will enable Pakistan to establish itself as a nuclear power," THE HINDUSTAN TIMES emphasizes. According to West German's STERN magazine, the Cologne-based Leybold company has played a key role in supplying Pakistan with the latest nuclear technology. This company directly assisted Islamabad in establishing the nuclear enterprise near the Pakistani capital. Leybold supplied Pakistan with top secret documentation on uranium enrichment using their contacts with a number of enterprises manufacturing nuclear production equipment in other West European countries, in particular Britain and the Netherlands.

DUSHMAN ATTACKS AIM TO 'WRECK' DRA RECONCILIATION

PM121123 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 May 87 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "The Dushmans' Crime"]

[Text] Kabul, 30 April -- Trying to wreck the process of national reconciliation, Afghan counterrevolutionaries continue to commit crimes against the peaceful population of the DRA. On 27 and 28 April bandits carried out missile and mortar attacks on residential areas of the city of Meymaneh -- the center of Faryab Province.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON THAI FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT

Talks With Shevardnadze

LD111835 Moscow TASS in English 1816 GMT 11 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 11 TASS — A businesslike and sincere exchange of opinions on questions of Soviet-Thai relations and key international problems, above all, those related to the situation in South-East Asia and the Asian-Pacific region, was held today between member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and Foreign Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, Chief Marshal of the Air Force Sitthi Sawetsila, on an official visit in the USSR.

When bilateral relations were discussed, the sides expressed satisfaction with their positive development and confirmed the mutual intention to continue the efforts to deepen a political dialogue, to widen contacts, including interparliamentary ties, exchange in science, culture, education and sports, which, in the opinion of the sides, would suit the interests of both countries, would promote the consolidation of Asian security and cooperation.

Discussing the state of commercial and economic ties, the participants in the talks declared for their further mutually advantageous and stable development with taking into account the existing potentials. [sentence as received]

Eduard Shevardnadze called the attention of the other party to the Soviet Union's comprehensive proposals for the elimination of Soviet and U.S. medium-range reduction in Asia, the proposals whose implementation would pave the road for other, deeper measures for disarmament, would promote a radical improvement of the situation in the world, and in Asia in particular.

Thailand's foreign minister spoke highly of the Soviet proposals in the sphere of disarmament. He pointed to the importance of the Soviet and U.S. talks on nuclear and space arms held in Geneva and expressed the hope that they will be crowned with concrete results, which, he said, will promote the easing of tension in Asia as well.

Considerable attention was paid to the situation in South-East Asia. The Soviet minister confirmed the Soviet Union's principled stand about the need for the settlement of regional conflict situations, also in South-East Asia, by political means to bring about durable peace, the atmosphere of goodneighborliness and cooperation in that area.

AFP Report

AU111243 Paris AFP in English 1227 GMT 11 May 87

[Text] Moscow, May 11 (AFP) -- Thai Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila opened an official visit to the Soviet Union on Monday by holding prolonged talks on Cambodia with his Soviet counterpart which spilled over into an unscheduled afternoon session, Thai officials said here.

The officials said that Mr. Sitthi and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze had three hours of morning talks on the international situation and Cambodia.

The discussions were to be continued after lunch at the Soviet Foreign Ministry guest house in central Moscow, they said.

The afternoon session, after a lunch at which both ministers delivered speeches, would continue the discussions on Cambodia before moving to bilateral relations, the officials said. They would not comment on the substance of the talks.

Neither side is expecting a breakthrough on Cambodia, according to Thai officials and diplomats here. One Western diplomat said the discussions on Cambodia would "continue the dialogue of the deaf".

According to Thai officials, Mr. Sitthi would try to persuade his Soviet hosts to admit direct Soviet involvement in the Cambodian conflict through the financial backing of Vietnam which maintains an estimated 140,000 troops in Cambodia, neighbouring Thailand.

Thailand wants the Soviet Union to pressure Vietnam into seeking a solution to the Cambodian conflict, but Moscow insists that it is not directly involved and that the countries in the region must negotiate a settlement among themselves.

Mr. Sitthi, who is accompanied by a trade delegation, is also to discuss expanding trade relations with the Soviet Union. On Tuesday he is to sign a protocol establishing a joint Soviet-Thai trade commission, according to the official programme released Monday.

Luncheon Remarks

PM121201 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 May 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Soviet-Thai Talks"]

[Text] Talks were held in Moscow 11 May between E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of foreign affairs, and Air Chief Marshal of the Air Force Sitthi Sawetsila, minister of foreign affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand, who is in the Soviet Union on an official visit.

S. Sawetsila handed over a message from Thailand's Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon, addressed to Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers N.I. Ryzhkov.

In the course of the talks there was made a business-like and frank [otkrovennyy] exchange of opinions on matters of Soviet-Thai relations and key international problems, primarily relating to the situation in southeast Asia and the Asian-Pacific region.

During discussion of bilateral relations, satisfaction was expressed with their positive development and the mutual intention was confirmed to continue efforts to deepen political dialogue and expand contacts, including interparliamentary links, exchanges in the field of science, culture, education and sport, which, in the view of the two sides would meet the interests of the peoples of both countries and promote the consolidation of pan-Asian security and cooperation.

Having examined trade and economic links, the participants spoke in favor of their further mutually advantageous and stable development; due account of the potential possibilities existing for this was made. In this context, note was made of the significance of more active contacts between representatives of business circles, implementation of coordinated programs for cooperation between chambers of commerce and industry, holding regular business information exhibitions, and of continuing the search for promising new fields and forms of joint trade and economic activity.

E.A. Shevardnadze drew attention to the latest set of USSR proposals on the elimination of Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles and operational and tactical missiles in Europe and their radical reduction in Asia, the implementation of which would make way for other, more profound measures of disarmament and promote a radical improvement in the situation in the world, particularly in Asia. The USSR foreign minister dwelled on practical steps being implemented by the Soviet Union to realize the initiatives put forward by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in Vladivostok and during his visit to India.

Thailand's foreign minister gave a high evaluation of the Soviet proposals in the disarmament sphere, and noted the importance of the Soviet-U.S. Geneva talks on nuclear and space weapons; he expressed the hope that they would end with specific results, which, he stated, would also promote reduction of tension in Asia.

Sitthi Sawetsila stressed that the initiatives expounded by M.S. Gorbachev in his speech in Vladivostok have provoked great and interested response in countries of Southeast Asia and the entire Asian-Pacific ocean region.

Significant attention was paid to the situation in Southeast Asia.

E.A. Shevardnadze confirmed the principled position of the USSR on the need to settle regional conflict situations, including in South East Asia, by political means, so that durable peace and an atmosphere of goodneighborliness and cooperation should be firmly established in the region.

E.A. Shevardnadze gave a luncheon today in honor of Sitthi Sawetsila, at which an exchange of speeches took place.

Greeting the guests, E.A. Shevardnadze said:

Our important guests are not in Moscow for the first time, but your visit to us, Mr Minister, is the first official visit by a minister of foreign affairs of Thailand to the Soviet Union, and this gives me a fine opportunity to explain our stance on Thailand.

We are pleased our countries are making steps to accommodate each other, continuing a path that began before today.

I have in mind the history of Russian-Thai relations. Despite the huge distance dividing us and the relatively slow means of transportation in the past century, our countries still established close and fast roads between each other. These were the roads of mutual respect, resulting from the desire of the best sons of Russia to give help to Siam in its just struggle for independence.

We welcome the increased contacts with your country, Mr Minister. May I recall the words of M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, from his Vladivostok speech on the readiness of the Soviet Union to develop links with Thailand. We are deeply satisfied that since then they have in fact been developing, as your visit to Moscow also shows.

In our opinion, it acts as an assurance of something much more significant, an understanding that there is but one peace, and it is of the highest value.

This being so, peaceful coexistence has to become the universal principle of relations between states in the nuclear-space age.

Peaceful coexistence does not boil down to an absence of war. It insistently demands a reduction in military confrontation and a rejection of the policy of strength and the threat of force.

There can be no full and calm life for anyone in a world where all are threatened by nuclear weapons, where there exists a danger of the arms race being transferred to space.

There can be no calm or stability in a region in which foreign military bases exist and which is not protected from the military rivalry of nonregional powers.

There can, finally, be no good neighborly relations between countries if they are in a state of conflict or confrontation, or if there is no trust between them.

It is inspiring for us that both our nations hold an analogous view of the need for nuclear disarmament, the prevention of the militarization of space, the unlocking of regional conflicts. We are ready to continue to cooperate closely with your country in the work of reducing and removing the nuclear threat. The support of Thailand for the Soviet-U.S. accord on medium-range nuclear missiles and operational and tactical missiles, and for wider agreements on the radical reduction of nuclear stockpiles is rated highly by the USSR.

Cooperation between us in promoting the concept of comprehensive security and in the practical formation of an appropriate international system could be of great significance.

Our talks today were intended to correlate and, perhaps, to bring our positions closer. The Asian-Pacific region is no small part of the planet. Once we guarantee peace and security in that part, we shall have made mankind safe to a large extent. It is through the example of this region that the interconnection between global and regional security is most evident.

Nuclear-free zones in various parts of the Pacific and Indian Oceans are important steps toward a world free of nuclear weapons.

The lowering of military confrontation in this region and the elimination of foreign military presence here are steps on the road to establishing an all-embracing system of international security.

The development of all-Asiatic dialogue is a component part of the process of strengthening trust on a world wide scale.

The course of the development of events and the logic of this convincingly confirm the vital topicality of the program put forward by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee in his speeches in Vladivostok and in the Indian parliament, and the principles expounded in the Delhi Declaration. The ideas of a comprehensive approach to ensuring security, peace and stability in Asia are penetrating more and more deeply into the fabric of interstate relations.

It is fundamentally important that during today's talks the mutual conviction was expressed that it is now urgently necessary to step up the search for ways for a just political solution to the problems which remain in the region.

We have different views on the situation around Kampuchea, but we by no means consider that they are of a dead-end nature, that there are no opportunities for a settlement of this conflict. Both during my tour of Southeast Asia and during the talks with you, Mr Minister, I sensed that the states of Indochina and the ASEAN countries have the traditions, the political experience and the political wisdom which make it possible for them to find a solution to the problems which have arisen with Kampuchea, in the interests of peace in the region and in the interests of the Kampuchean people.

The Soviet Union will continue to foster the establishment and successful development of dialogue in that direction.

I would like to say quite definitely that any proposals and practical steps which lead toward establishment of a just and stable peace in the region will continue to meet with total understanding and support by the USSR.

Making use of this opportunity I once again stress the firm intention of the USSR to continue its policy on developing stable and mutually advantageous relations with Thailand in all areas and strengthening mutual understanding between the peoples of our two countries.

In his reply speech, Sitthi Sawetsila, having expressed his thanks for the attention and hospitality, said inter alia:

We have already felt the fresh and open atmosphere which, it seems, also characterizes the new spirit of openness of the current political climate in the Soviet Union.

The visit is taking place soon after your recent trip around one countries of Southeast Asia, during which you also stopped in Bangkok.

The historic speech by General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev in Vladisvostok in July last year, and the new active Soviet foreign policy in the Asian-Pacific region, have undoubtedly attracted the attention and gained the interest of the peoples of this region, who welcome the positive aspiration of the Soviet Union to play an active and constructive role in the work of contributing to friendly and fruitful relations between countries. We also aspire to this. We fully share the thought that the process of dialogue is vitally necessary for the development of mutual understanding and cooperation. Proceeding precisely from this conviction, I am making this visit to the Soviet Union on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). When examining the issue of peace and security in Southeast Asia, one cannot fail to consider the central problem of the Kampuchean conflict. It is this problem which has been at the focus of our discussions until the present. [paragraph continues]

We are convinced the Soviet Union is capable of playing a leading role in the resolution of this problem. As a great power which plays a major role in the Asian-Pacific region, the Soviet Union is constantly at the focus of attention. All ASEAN countries expect sincere cooperation on the part of the Soviet Union for guaranteeing a lasting settlement of this problem. In this regard, we were glad to hear that the Soviet Union advocates a speedy settlement of the Kampuchean issue by political means.

Such a process would indubitably open the way for genuine cooperation between the Soviet Union and the regional ASEAN states in the field of strengthening the prospects for creation of a peaceful international situation and of mutually beneficial links between us.

The creation of a peaceful international situation by means of developing mutually beneficial relations between regional states is our common task. The world heard and welcomed the positive message of Vladivostok and awaits its implementation with impatience. We in ASEAN are convinced that the Soviet Union's efforts will be successful, and in this respect it has our unconditional support.

The dinner was held in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

V.M. Kamentsev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received S. Sawetsila. Questions of the development of trade and economic cooperation between the two countries were discussed.

Meets With Kamentsev

LD121529 Moscow Television Service in Russian 2130 GMT 11 May 87

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Chief Marshal of the Air Force Sitthi Sawetsila, foreign affairs minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, is on an official visit to our country at the invitation of the USSR Government. On 11 May Comrade Kamentsev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received Sawetsila. Questions of developing trade and economic cooperation between the two countries were discussed.

Trade Protocol Signed

LD121644 Moscow TASS in English 1622 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 12 TASS -- A protocol has been signed in the Soviet capital today on setting up an intergovernmental Soviet-Thai commission on trade. The signatures under the protocol have been put by Boris Aristov, USSR foreign trade minister, and Sitthi Sawetsila, foreign minister of the Kingdom of Thailand. The Thai minister has been on an official visit in the Soviet Union since Sunday at the Soviet Government's invitation.

Boris Aristov expressed satisfaction with the signing of the protocol and stressed that this act is evidence of the great significance attached by the governments of the two countries to broadening and invigorating mutual trade and economic relations, making them more dynamic.

Now we have a joint body, within whose framework it is possible to analyze the state of bilateral trade, search for ways leading to progress in the field of Soviet-Thai business cooperation, the minister said. The mixed commission is designed to become an important instrument for the realization of our mutual wish to use more effectively the great potentialities in the best interests of both sides. The signing of that document also symbolizes the successful completion of the Soviet-Thai trade talks, which were started in Bangkok, he pointed out.

Sitthi Sawetsila stressed in his reply address the great significance of the protocol for the development of trade relations between the two countries and noted that this event had been fresh evidence of the wish of the Governments of Thailand and the Soviet Union for broadening cooperation. He expressed hope that the volume of trade would be considerably broadened with the participation of government institutions and business circles.

The Thai foreign minister thanked for the hospitality accorded to him and the persons accompanying him in the Soviet land. Tonight Sitthi Sawetsila is to go on a tour of the Soviet Union, which will take him to Sochi, a Black Sea resort city, and Georgia, a Soviet republic in the Transcaucasus.

Meets With Gromyko

PM131056 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 May 1987 Second Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Developing Soviet-Thai Relations"]

[Text] Any act in international policy affairs is not worth much unless it is dictated by good intentions and the desire to promote the attainment of what is of most value to every person on earth -- a life of peace. And conversely, any step, any proposal, if dictated by the desire to promote the elimination of tension in the world and to ensure that all countries, big and small, work for the cause of peace merits the peoples' gratitude. The people of Thailand and their state leadership are undoubtedly aware that the Soviet Union and its people adhere to the great cause of peace.

Those were the thoughts voiced at the very beginning of a conversation in the Kremlin 12 May by A.A. Gromyko, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, at a meeting with Thai Foreign Minister Chief Marshal of the Air Force Sitthi Sawetsila, who is in the Soviet Union on an official visit.

The Soviet side emphasized that any country striving for peace, no matter in what continent it is situated, will always find in the Soviet Union a reliable partner in the struggle to avert the threat of new war. This applies to Thailand if it will pursue peaceful aims in its foreign policy.

In international relations, A.A. Gromyko noted, fundamental laws exist which are dictated by mankind's highest interests. A special place among these laws belongs to noninterference by states in the internal affairs of other states and the resolution of disputed issues by peaceful means, and only peaceful means.

Thailand's foreign minister said that his country pursues peaceful aims and wishes to live in peace with all neighbors, including Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.

There was later an exchange of opinion on some concrete aspects of security in the Asia-Pacific region. The Soviet side emphasized that the United States actions manifested in the concentration of naval forces in the area heighten still more tension and danger for the cause of peace. The Soviet Union, just as many other countries, cannot fail to draw from this corresponding conclusions for its policy.

Andrey Gromyko said that there is an organic interrelationship between the domestic and foreign policy of the Soviet Union. The large-scale tasks for reorganiztion and speeding up of social and economic development of the country are closely linked with the struggle for durable peace. In this context the attention of Sitthi Sawetsila was drawn to peace initiatives set out in the statements and speeches of CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev.

Thailand's representative spoke about a positive attitude of his country to the Soviet Union's proposals aimed at averting nuclear menace, at safeguarding peace and establishing broad and equal international cooperation.

Andrey Gromyko emphasized that in questions of bilateral relations the Soviet Union has been conducting and intends to conduct a friendly policy with regard to Asian countries, Thailand included, to develop political, economic, commercial and cultural ties with them on the basis of mutual advantage. The USSR had and will invariably have a positive attitude to the fact that Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos are striving to maintain goodneighborly relations with ASEAN countries.

Both sides, the USSR and Thailand, expressed the intention to promote in every way the deepening and enrichment of mutual ties, including contacts along the parliamentary line. This must, undoubtedly, be promoted by the visit to the Soviet Union by a delegation of Thailand's National Assembly due to take place this autumn.

Andrey Gromyko emphasized that the Soviet side welcomes the interest of Thailand's business circles and government in the development of commercial ties with the Soviet Union. This is shown by the arrival in Moscow of a large group of influential businessmen simultaneously with the visit of the foreign minister.

During the conversation with the guest, Andrey Gromyko noted that this is the first official visit of Thailand's foreign minister to the USSR in the history of bilateral relations. "And we view it as an important step to expand the Soviet-Thai dialogue, to develop ties between the two countries in various areas", he said.

In conclusion of the conversation, Sitthi Sawetsila handed over a friendly message from Thailand's Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon addressed to Mikhail Gorbachev. Accepting that document, Andrey Gromyko said that the very fact of the message merits a positive appraisal.

Present during the conversation were I.A. Rogachev, USSR deputy foreign minister, V.P. Kasatkin, USSR ambassador to Thailand, and Prachit Rotchanaphruk, Thai ambassador to the USSR.

Interviewed on Visit

LD071826 Moscow TASS in English 1749 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Bangkok May 7 TASS -- Relations between Thailand and the USSR at present can be described as normal ones, Sitthi Sawetsila, foreign minister of Thailand, said in an interview with TASS correspondent Boris Chekhonin. "Thai-Soviet relations have developed in a positive direction". He said he believed that the atmosphere formed in those relations had a tendency for a further improvement.

This was partly due to the new orientation in the Soviet foreign policy under the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev and partly due to the more frequent exchanges of visits between the two countries in a variety of areas.

The brief visit to Bangkok of Eduard Shevardnadze in March this year was a landmark in our relations, in part, because it was the first ever visit to Thailand by a Soviet foreign minister, Sawetsila said.

I believe that natural consequences of such exchanges, of the dialogue between the two sides, should improve mutual understanding. In general, the prospects could be quite good for relations between Thailand and the Soviet Union, the Thai minister said.

There are ample opportunities for giving new scope to cultural ties. The last year has witnessed broader contacts in the field of culture largely due to the Soviet Union. The present state of Thai-Soviet trade relations can be described as satisfactory although a good deal of work is ahead in this field, the minister said.

The difference between the Thai economy orientated at free market and the centralized planned economy of the Soviet Union was believed to be an unsurmountable barrier in the way to a considerable boost in the volume and diversification of trade exchange.

The minister said that there were two circumstances that inspired hope in him today. Firstly, it is an economic reform being effected in your country, he said. I think that it will make Soviet foreign trade more flexible and provide an opportunity to make it easier for our different systems to interact. Second, what gives optimism is the belief in the capability of the Thai economy in gaining experience in concluding mutually dovetailed deals, which will produce unique in significance pre-conditions for rectifying the situation that has formed in trade. Opportunities for this do exist and, as I hope, they will be tapped with time by the private sector whose 20 representatives will accompany me in the trip to the USSR.

Political relations, cultural and economic ties can be genuinely developed only in conditions of peace. This point of view, the minister said, is shared also by my country. And indeed, look at Thailand's stand on key international problems of our time. In our policy we always proceeded from the principles of international law, justice and respect for the U.N. Charter.

Thailand's two-year participation in the work of the Security Council as its non-permanent member has come to an end just recently.

Our activity in this council speaks for itself. Thailand will continue adhering to the same position. World peace can be preserved only on condition that all states will scrupulously abide by the established international standards and rules of conduct.

The Thai Government paid attention to recent statements on problems of peace in Asia and Pacific. Various ideas aired in this connection are of interest and merit serious attention. We welcome any step or proposal which would serve the cause of peace and prosperity on earth.

"We welcome the Soviet Union's constructive policy towards East-West relations. We hope that the Soviet Union will continue to make genuine efforts to achieve progress on the question of arms control and disarmament for the sake of world peace and security. Thailand welcomes many initiatives put forward by General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev in his speech in Vladivostok".

"In visiting the Soviet Union I will bring with me goodwill and best of wishes of the government and the people of Thailand to the government and people of the Soviet Union", the minister said in conclusion.

SRV SPOKESMAN ON BANGKOK CAMBODIA CONFERENCE

LD130957 Moscow TASS in English 0906 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] Hanoi May 13 TASS — A spokesman for the SRV Foreign Ministry said here that Vietnam would not participate in a so-called "International Conference on Kampuchea", which is scheduled to be staged by forces of imperialism and reaction in Bangkok in July this year. He stressed that the conference is a malicious action aimed at breathing a new life into the collapsed organisation of Khmer reactionaries and opposing the resolute demands of public at eliminating the criminal Pol Pot clique, which is responsible for the murder of millions of people.

It is absolutely obvious, the spokesman for the SRV Foreign Ministry said, that the holding of such a conference is a crying interference in the home affairs of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, prevents a search of ways for a political settlement of issues around Kampuchea and contributes to building up confrontation and tensions in the region.

CPV EXPRESSES THANKS FOR 'DISINTERESTED' AID

LD090835 Moscow World Service in English 0700 GMT 9 May 87

[Text] The Politburo of Vietnam's Communist Party has thanked the Soviet Union for its disinterested and extremely important aid to the Vietnamese people in their endeavors to build socialism and defend their country. Having analyzed the results of bilateral cooperation in the past 10 years the Politburo requested the government to promote cooperation between Vietnam and the USSR still further.

BULGARIA'S ZHIVKOV ENDS PRC VISIT, STOPS IN MOSCOW

PM111151 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 May 87 Second Edition p 5

[TASS reports under the general hearing: "Arrival in Moscow"]

[Text] T. Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the Bulgarian State Council, made a stopover in Moscow 10 May while returning home from the PRC, where he had been on an official friendly visit.

T. Zhivkov and the comrades accompanying him were met at the airport by M.S. Solomentsev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo; V.A. Medvedev, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; and senior officials of the CPSU Central Committee.

The welcoming party included G. Pankov, Bulgarian ambassador to the USSR.

On his way to Moscow T. Zhivkov made a brief stopover in Irkutsk.

The Bulgarian leader was met and seen off by V.I. Potapov, secretary of Irkutsk Obkom, and A.M. Kovalchuk, chairman of the oblispolkom.

Beijing, 10 May -- T. Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the Bulgarian State Council, today concluded his official friendly visit to the PRC. He held talks with Li Xiannian, president of the PRC; Zhao Ziyang, acting general secretary of the CPC Central Committee and premier of the PRC State Council; and other Chinese leaders.

Questions of developing bilateral relations were discussed at the talks, as well as urgent international problems.

A long-term agreement on the main directions of economic, scientific, and technical cooperation between the PRC and Bulgaria and other joint documents were signed during the visit.

Meets With Gorbachev

PM121203 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 May 87 p 1

[TASS report: "M.S. Gorbachev's Meeting With T. Zhivkov" -- PRAVDA headline]

[Text] Moscow May 11 TASS -- Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, had a meeting 11 May with Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, president of the State Council of Bulgaria, who visited Moscow on his way home form the People's Republic of China.

Mikhail Gorbachev and Todor Zhivkov analyzed some important problems connected with the consolidation of the positions of world socialism. They reiterated the resolve of both parties and countries to further cooperate with other socialist countries and with all the progressively-minded and peace-minded forces for the sake of warding off the menace of nuclear war, especially in Europe, for the sake of disarmament and the creation of a comprehensive system of international security.

During the discussion of prospects of bilateral relations they pointed out a special importance of a consistent implementation of agreements on the establishment of direct ties between Soviet and Bulgarian industrial enterprises and amalgamations and the removal of all that is still hampering their effective work. Gorbachev and Zhivkov touched upon the problems of the introduction of new integration forms of cooperation within the CMEA framework.

They exchanged views in a comradely manner on the tasks which the CPSU and the Bulgarian Communist Party were undertaking, when putting into practice the guidelines of their respective congresses that provided for major socioeconomic transformations.

Mikhail Gorbachev made special mention of the fact that the main motive force, the popular masses, were joining ever more actively a process of qualitative renovation of all the areas of public life which was going on under the leadership of the party. The completion of the creation of a single economic mechanism ensuring the maximum development of initiative and independent action of working people is of key importance today. A regular plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee will analyze a package of questions connected with it.

Todor Zhivkov told Mikhail Gorbachev about the implementation of the course outlined by the 13th congress of the Bulgarian Communist Party. He pointed out the identity of objectives and principles of dramatic transformation in the USSR and Bulgaria. Specifically, he dwelt on a political significance of measures for turning over socialist property to labor collectives that had been taken recently in Bulgaria.

Todor Zhivkov emphasized that the Bulgarian Communist Party and the working people of the country ardently welcomed and approved the policy of the acceleration of socioeconomic development mapped out by the 27th CPSU Congress, as well as the ideas of the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum that were of much importance for the Soviet Union and for the destinies of socialism and the world.

The conversation was held in an atmosphere of cordiality and complete mutual understanding.

Officials See Zhivkov Off

LD111348 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 11 May 87

[Text] Today Todor Zhivkov, who made a stopover visit during his return home after paying an official friendly visit to the PRC, left Moscow.

He was seen off at the airport by Comrades Solomentsev, Medvedev, and other responsible officials of the CPSU Central Committee.

FRG 'UNDERMINING' BERLIN QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT

LD112216 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1815 GMT 11 May 87

[By TASS correspondent Yuriy Borisov]

[Text] West Berlin, 11 May (TASS) -- The FRG leaders are continuing their obviously preplanned political actions to undermine the key point of the quadripartite agreement on West Berlin, in accordance with which the city is not a part of the FRG and is not able to administer it. This time the argument behind such actions was the vist to West Berlin today by French President F. Mitterrand within the framework of the events to mark the city's 750th anniversary. He arrived here "accompanied" by Federal Chancellor H. Kohl, which in itself is in crude opposition to the quadripartite agreement.

The fact that FRG President R. von Weizsaecker, who is in West Berlin, received F. Mitterrand in his so-called West Berlin "residence" is also of an openly provocative nature. Hitherto he had never met here with the heads of the three Western allied powers. This step shows that Bonn, by ignoring West Berlin's legal status as an independent political entity, is treating this city as a "land" of the FRG. After his meeting with Mitterrand, the FRG president described such actions, which undermines the very basis of the quadripartite agreements, as "positive" and "sensible."

Speaking at a reception in F. Mitterrand's honor, Chancellor H. Kohl claimed that his government is in favor of "detente in relations" with both German states, as well as between West Berlin and its encirclement. But how can one believe this when he then demanded an "expansion" of ties between West Berlin and the FRG. For the umpteenth time the Bonn politicians are trying to test the stability of the quadripartite agreement, ignoring the fact that this important international document has helped to improve the situation around West Berlin and to eliminate a dangerous pocket of tension in the center of Europe.

In his speech, the French president called for "balanced steps on disarmament." He stated that he welcomes with interest and satisfaction any proposal aimed at disarmament. According to him, equality must always be a precondition of this.

KOHL'S STATEMENT ON DISARMAMENT CONTRADICTORY

LD081303 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0230 GMT 8 May 87

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Aleksey Sokolov]

[Excerpt] FRG Chancellor Kohl yesterday submitted a government statement on disarmament issues in which he stated that he shares the USSR's viewpoint on the necessity for new thinking and new actions. Has the ice melted? Well, it does not look like it. The chancellor contradicated himself. He once again spoke of the strategy of deterrence, and of the importance of nuclear weapons which, he said, NATO cannot totally renounce.

In his attempts to justify this policy of his government, Kohl once again exaggerated the insolvent theses about a considerable Soviet military superiority and the capability of the Warsaw Pact to invade West Europe.

Kohl did not set out Bonn's final stance with regard to the Soviet proposal to eliminate medium-range missiles and operational and tactical missiles in Europe.

In the chancellor's words he set out in his statement only the interim result of the discussions on disarmament. [passage omitted]

PRE-VISIT REPORTAGE ON CHIRAC MOSCOW VISIT

Officials Discuss Visit

LD131208 Moscow TASS in English 1059 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 13 TASS -- The forthcoming visit by the French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac is viewed in the Soviet Union as an important stage in the development of Soviet French relations, said Nikolay Afanasyevskiy, head of the First European Desk of the USSR Foreign Ministry. He spoke today at a briefing held at the press centre of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

This event, he said, should be viewed in line with other contacts between representatives of our countries at the highest level -- the visit by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev to France in October 1985 and the visit by the President of France Francois Mitterrand to the Soviet Union in July 1986.

As we see it, relations between the USSR and France are developing well, normally, but lately difficulties have appeared, some frictions have accumulated, Nikolay Afanasyevskiy said. In this connection it is hoped in Moscow that the talks with the French prime minister will help clarify the positions of the two countries. It is believed in the Soviet Union that the forthcoming talks will be useful for the dialogue between our countries, will benefit the cause of peace, disarmament in Europe and in the whole world. The voice of the Soviet-French dialogue should sound louder and be more productive.

Humanitarian issues are discussed between the USSR and France on a regular basis, said Aleksey Glukhov, first deputy head of the Directorate for Humanitarian and Cultural ties of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs. But not everything is being solved in this sphere as we would wish. It causes our concern that hostile campaigns against the Soviet Union are continuing in the French press and that there are instances of unfriendly statements by individual officials. For instance, the French side has been repeatedly officially informed on the basis of results of thorough investigations that all French citizens who were in POW camps in the USSR were repatriated in the post-war period to France or, if they so wished, to third countries. The French side was also informed that at present there is not a single French citizen in the Soviet Union who would be forcibly kept here or held in prison.

One can only express perplexion [as received] that in France there are unscrupulous people who speculate on the feelings of people who lost their dear ones during the war. Such irresponsible campaigns spoil the atmosphere of relations between the two countries and also lead to violations of individual rights of separate citizens. Aleksey Glukhov recalled the concrete case of the violation of the rights of the Soviet citizen Lyudmila Verdier-Varigina who is still in France and whose freedom of movement is restricted. He told journalists that there are now Soviet children in France who do not have the possibility to leave for the USSR: Julietta Konyushenko, aged 13, Louise Delfos, 8, and Elias Wahabi, 6.

Arms limitation and disarmament are problems that have always been in the centre of attention of the Soviet-French dialogue, said Konstantin Mikhaylov, deputy head of the Directorate on Arms Limitation and Disarmament problems of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Soviet side takes into account the specificities of the French position, he stressed.

But it must be said that on a whole number of important problems this position does not accord with the concept of achieving a nuclear-free world.

Ryzhkov Meets With Envoy

LD121825 Moscow TASS in English 1519 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 12 TASS -- Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and Yves Pagnies, French ambassador to the USSR, discussed today in the Kremlin questions of mutual interest, inter alia, those on the coming official visit to the USSR by French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac. The head of the government received the ambassador at his request.

EC FOREIGN MINISTERS DISCUSS SOVIET PROPOSALS

LD081153 Moscow TASS in English 1130 GMT 8 May 87

[Text] Paris May 8 TASS -- Soviet proposals for nuclear disarmament have been in the focus of a meeting of the European Council's ministerial committee in Strasbourg.

The attending foreign ministers of the 21 countries grouped in the consultative political organization of European capitalist nations held an extensive exchange of opinions on East-West problems.

Committee Chairman Vahit Halefoglu, who is Turkish foreign minister, told newsmen after the meeting everybody agreed that a new page was opening in East-West relations.

He added, however, that West European countries differed on arms control issues, most notably in response to a Soviet proposal for eliminating medium-range and theater missiles from Europe.

The foreign ministers called for closer cooperation with East European countries in culture and education and expressed the hope that conditions would be created soon for an international peace conference on the Middle East.

FURTHER DETAILS OF TURKISH GENERAL'S VISIT

Leaves Moscow for Leningrad

PM130953 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 10 May 87 First Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "Visit Continues"]

[Text] On 8 May Army General N. Torumtay, first deputy chief of General Staff of the Turkish Armed Forces, who is in the Soviet Union on an official visit at the invitation of Colonel General V.N. Lobov, first deputy chief of General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces, left for Leningrad. Lieutenant General F.M. Markovskiy accompanied the guest from Turkey on the trip.

A meeting took place on the same day in the city on the Neva between Army General N. Torumtay and Army General B.V. Snetkov, commander of the Leningrad Military District. A dinner was given in honor of the Turkish guest.

Army General N. Torumtay laid flowers at the monument to the defenders of Leningrad in Victory Square and visited the Piskarevskiy memorial complex.

In the afternoon the guest from Turkey visited the M.V. Frunze Higher Naval School.

Ends Leningrad Visit

PM131103 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 May 87 First Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "Stay in Leningrad"]

[Text] Army General N. Torumtay, first deputy chief of the Turkish Armed Forces General Staff, who is on an official visit to the Soviet Union at the invitation of Colonel General V.N. Lobov, first deputy chief of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff, continued to familiarize himself with the city on the Neva 11 May.

The Turkish guest visited a unit in Leningrad Military District, where he familiarized himself with the combat training and lives of Soviet servicemen. Army Gen N. Torumtay was accompanied by Lieutenant General F.M. Markovskiy.

The Turkish guest left for Moscow the same day.

CORRECTION TO WEIZSAECKER OFFICIAL VISIT

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "FRG's Weizsaecker To Pay Official Visit 6-11 June," published in the 11 May Soviet Union DAILY REPORT on page G 1:

The headline reads: Pay Official Visit 6-11 July (changing "June" to "July")

Paragraph one, line three reads: between 6 and 11 July 1987 (changing "June" to "July")

CPSU DELEGATION CONTINUES COLOMBIA VISIT

PM121221 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 May 87 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Visit to Colombia"]

[Text] Bogota, 6 May — The CPSU delegation headed by V.A. Zakharov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Kalmyk CPSU Obkom, is still in Colombia. It is here at the invitation of the Colombian Communist Party leadership. The Soviet guests have visited one of the country's large industrial centers — the city of Medellin, where they had conversations with the leaders of the Colombian Communist Party regional committee and met with representatives of the local public and working people from a number of industrial enterprises.

On returning to the country's capital, the CPSU delegation had a meeting with the leadership of the "Provivienda" organization which is responsible for the Colombian working people's housing issues. Mario Upegui, chairman of "Provivienda" and member of the Colombian Communist Party Central Committee Executive Committee, talked about the housing problems facing Colombians and the work done by the Communist Party to assist working class families in need of housing in the capital.

The head of the CPSU delegation informed the Colombians of the measures being taken by the CPSU and the Soviet Government to improve Soviet people's housing conditions.

The members of the Soviet party delegation visited one of the regions in the city where homes for working class families on minimum income have been built by "Provivienda."

Meets Bogota Mayor

PM111507 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 May 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "CPSU Delegation's Stay"]

[Text] Bogota, 7 May — The CPSU delegation headed by V.A. Zakharov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Kalmyk CPSU Obkom, which is here at the invitation of the leadership of the Communist Party of Colombia, has visited the Alcaldia — the capital's city administration. A meeting was held with J. Cesar Sanchez, mayor of Bogota. In the course of talks held in a friendly atmosphere he touched on the Colombian capital's problems and spoke of the measures being taken to solve them.

On the same day the CPSU delegation met with the leadership and activists of the Communist Youth of Colombia [JCC]. JCC Secretary General Jose Antekera [name as published] spoke about the situation in the country's youth and student movement and the tasks facing the JCC.

The CPSU delegation members answered numerous questions put by the participants in the meeting, who showed great interest in the transformations taking place in the USSR in all spheres of society and in the involvement of Soviet young people in the process of restructuring, accelerating socioeconomic development, and strengthening democracy.

Visit Concludes

PM121007 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 may 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "In Cordial Atmosphere"]

[Text] Bogota, 8 May — The CPSU delegation headed by V.A. Zakharov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Kalmyk CPSU Obkom, which is here at the invitation of the leadership of the Communist Party of Colombia [PCC], has met with members of the PCC Central Committee Executive Committee.

V.A. Zakharov told the Colombia Communists' leaders about the restructuring process taking place in the Soviet Union and aimed at accelerating the USSR's socioeconomic development and further democratizing Soviet society and about the main aspects of the USSR's foreign policy, whose main content consists of achieving lasting peace in the world and strengthening cooperation among the peoples.

During the meeting, which took place in a cordial and friendly atmosphere, the PCC leadership informed the Soviet delegation of the Communists' work to expand their ranks, strengthen the PCC's prestige and influence among the people's masses, and consolidate the unity of all democratic forces in the country.

Yesterday the CPSU delegation left for home. At the capital's airport it was seen off by Gilberto Vieira, general secretary of the PCC Central Committee, and other PCC leaders.

Delegation Returns

PM121555 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 May 87 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Return Home"]

[Text] The CPSU delegation headed by V.A. Zakharov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Kalmyk CPSU Obkom, which has been in Colombia at the invitation of the Colombian Communist Party leadership, returned to Moscow from Bogota on 10 May.

SHEVARDNADZE RECEIVES BRAZILIAN AMBASSADOR

LD121729 Moscow TASS in English 1517 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 12 TASS — An exchange of opinions on prospects of the development of Soviet-Brazil relations in various areas, as well as on topical international problems was held today between USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and Brazil's ambassador to the USSR Mota Ronaldo Sardenberg. The minister received the ambassador at his request. The ambassador handed over the message of Brazil's President Jose Sarney addressed to General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev.

COMMISSION CITE LOCAL AUTHORITIES' 'SHORTCOMINGS'

PM121045 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 May 87 Morning Edition p 2

[R. Armeyev undated "Report on a Joint Session of the Soviet of the Union and Soviet of Nationalities Legislative Proposals Commissions" under "USSR Supreme Soviet Between Sessions" rubric: "Barrier to Unearned Income"; capitalized words between slantlines published in boldface]

[Text] Before the session started I received a large folder of materials relating to the agenda. Point one today was the practice of the application of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium directive "On Stepping Up the Struggle Against Unearned Income" in the Chechen-Ingush ASSR. I had some time left and managed to read the summary compiled by Kh. Bokov, chairman of the Chechen-Ingush Supreme Soviet Presidium, and M. Kerimov, chairman of the republic's Council of Ministers. Shortly after reading this, I heard Kh. Bokov's report at the session. The longer I listened the more clearly I realized the discussion today would be impartial and tough, and I did not envy the speaker....

Kh. Bokov's report ended with the words: "Of course, the essence lies not in the number of measures but in practical results — which have by no means been satisfactory during this period."

We must realize that, although we work actively and see the shortcomings, by no means everything has been done yet, so we are sorry....There were shades of the reports and "summaries" that were prepared 5-10 years ago.

Just what is the practice of the struggle against unearned income in the Chechen-Ingush region? I will try to briefly convey the essence of the specific observations, comments, proposals, and conclusions mentioned during the speeches by the following deputies — P.I. Yerpilov, first secretary of Pavlodar Kazakh Communist Party Obkom; Ye.F. Sysoyeva, tractor driver from Krasnodar Kray (they traveled to the area at the commission's behest and familiarized themselves in detail with the state of affairs); A.M. Rekunkov, USSR prosecutor general; and N.I. Demidov, USSR deputy minister of internal affairs.

The safekeeping of socialist property is an acute and unresolved issue in the republic. The situation is particularly unfavorable in the agro-industrial system, trade, construction, and transportation. The losses run into millions.

/AGRO-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX./ Some R1.3 million were lost in this area last year as a result of embezzlement, shortages, and waste. The most serious situation was on the farms and enterprises of the Achkha-Martanovskiy, Sunzhenskiy, Shelkovskiy, Naurskiy, and Sovetskiy Rayon Agro-Industrial Associations [rayagropromy]. One of the sources of unearned income is the neglect of accounting in public stockraising. Kolkhoz and sovkhoz herds and flocks include citizens' personal livestock. Thus, 1,690 privately owned sheep and 118 cattle were included in the general herd on the "Mineralnyy" Sovkhoz in Nadterechnyy Rayon. Unfortunately, that case is typical.

In rural areas, land is often seized at will and used for unauthorized income, in full view of the local ispolkoms and agro-industrial complex leaders. An alarming situation has emerged in the system for the purchase of agricultural products. [paragraph continues]

Procurement workers are given large sums of "ready" cash. This creates favorable conditions for abuses and the acquisition of stolen goods. Thus, last year in some "magical" way wool purchases from the population amounted to 46 percent of all purchases, although less than 18 percent of all sheep are kept on private plots.

/TRADE./ Deception, short weight, and other violations are widespread -- in both the state and cooperative trading systems. Over the last year internal affairs organs have instituted twice as many criminal cases relating to such incidents as they did in 1985.

In /LEISURE AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES/ in the republic the number of exposed cases of embezzlement has increased by 50 percent. Lovers of the "free lunch" use gas appliances without authorization, use electricity illegally, and avoid paying their rent. As of 1 January 1987 housing rent arrears in the Chechen-Ingush area ran to more than R1 million (!).

/TRANSPORTATION./ In 1986 1,109 cases of unauthorized utilization of state transportation for selfish purposes, 1,180 cases of vehicles not being kept in garages, and 226 cases of the illegal sale and purchase of gasoline were revealed. Overreporting and illegal payments of wages and bonuses (the Chechen-Ingush Construction Administration, "Agropromstroy," the "Checheningushvodstroy" Construction Administration, and others) are commonplace.

Great damage has been done by pilferers and petty thieves. They operate at kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and industrial enterprises. But particularly at enterprises in the meat, dairy, and food industries, where violations of recipes and techniques appear as unaccounted-for "surpluses." It is very rare for violators to be fined, dismissed, or stripped of bonuses. Many enterprises neglect accounts and reports and fail to make their territory and finished products as secure as they could be (enterprises and bases under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Trade, Ministry of Consumer Services, and the republic Potresbsoyuz).

A peculiar situation has emerged regarding labor resources. More than 100,000 able-bodied people are not engaged in social production. They do not work, but they eat, drink, and live well. How do they do it? Through whom?...

There is not enough space in a newspaper to convey the emotion, indignation, confusion, and demandingness that can be heard from deputies. Why? Why did these things happen? Reasons were cited. I will list just a few of them.

An atmosphere of universal intolerance of individuals who try to live off the state still needs to be created in the republic.

Soviet and economic organs feel no responsibility for supplying people with foodstuffs on the basis of the reserves and potential of local kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and enterprises' subsidiary farms. The republic is not self-sufficient: Last year it imported 1,500 tonnes of meat, 106,000 tonnes of milk, and 35,000 tonnes of potatoes. In 1986, 13 out of 67 enterprises failed to fulfill the consumer goods production plan and permitted production shortfalls to the value of R6,574,000. As a rule, there is still room for improvement in the quality of manufactured goods.

As for the cadre problem, the practice of reassigning around the "nomenklatura" network those workers who have failed or blotted their record book is still practiced.

Leaders of enterprises, organizations, and the republic's ministries and departments "do not dare" to try to instill strict order in accounting for raw and other materials and finished products or to put a timely end to license and wastefulness.

The work of the control and auditing services is poor. There are three times more departmental inspectors -- this is a curious fact! -- than there are workers at the Ministry of Finance Control and Auditing Administration, yet they reveal several times fewer violations.

The republic's internal affairs organs are "utterly colorless," stated N.I. Demidov, USSR deputy minister of internal affairs. Their success rate in solving domestic burglaries is particularly poor. Nor has there been any improvement in the quality of investigations of embezzlement of socialist property. Restitution by guilty parties for the damage they have done is a chronically vexed question.

The Soviets do not feel themselves to be masters of the situation in the republic, even though they now have sufficient powers.

Here is an extract from the speech by A.M. Rekunkov, USSR prosecutor general: "In the law enforcement organs system a great deal is done for show, for reports, and -- to speak plainly -- for themselves, rather than for strengthening legality. Attention is often focused on trivial cases, while dealers, speculators, swindlers, and big-money bribe-takers go unnoticed; even though they make no particular secret of their criminal activities and almost openly enjoy their iniquitous income.... There have also been cases when people fighting for justice have been punished. Thus, Comrade Zelimkhanov, a control and auditing administration staffer, was dismissed without grounds and could not get himself reinstated despite trying institutions and organizations. The republic prosecutor's office helped to ensure that justice was not done.... This lack of principle and connivance with lawbreakers has spread from top to bottom throughout the republic. The desire to cover up for shortcomings in any way has put down deep roots...".

The result of the discussion of the first point on the agenda was summed up by G.P. Razumovskiy, chairman of the Soviet of the Union Legislative Proposals Commission and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, who chaired the session.

The work being done in the republic, he noted, in no way accords with the party's demands to further strengthen socialist legality, step up the protection of state and social property, and eliminate the reasons and conditions that promote unearned income. It is necessary to fundamentally change attitude to work, style, and to improve the real responsibility of leaders at all levels, otherwise one can hardly hope for any positive changes. The fight against negative phenomena and the struggle against unearned income must be purposefully and effectively conducted. We have to realize where to find the cause and roots of what has happened and where to start. Why not foster in working people intolerance of graft, money-grubbing, and other manifestations of self-seeking? Why is openness being expanded so timidly? Why, with a surplus labor force, have enterprises not organized two- and three-shift working, why are there manpower shortages in the agro-industrial complex and consumer services, and why are construction organizations' plans not fulfilled? Why has the social sphere been neglected? -- there is an acute shortage of places at preschool institutions, hospitals, and medical centers.... Many such questions crop up. If we do not set ourselves the task of finding objective and correct answers to them along party lines we will never get things moving and never get down to the work which the party expects from local organs. The republic's leaders must draw the relevant conclusions. They will have to answer....

A resolution was adopted instructing the Chechen-Ingush ASSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and Council of Ministers to draw up and implement additional measures of an economic, organizational, educational, and legal nature to erect a reliable barrier to unearned income. It was decided to return to this question in a year to see how the state of affairs has changed.

The deputies also heard information on the progress in fulfilling the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium resolution of 14 February 1986 "On the Execution by the State Organs of Vinnitsa Oblast of Legislation Aimed at Overcoming Drunkenness."

Much has been done in Vinnitsa, but the work cannot yet be considered satisfactory. As a rule, all the measures boil down to restrictions -- restrictions on the production and sale of alcoholic drinks. We forget party and government resolutions stipulate a range of antialcohol measures. What is the importance of cultural, health care, education, sports, and mass media organs? Judging by a report from Vinnitsa Oblast, the labor collectives' role in this important matter has diminished -- last year the number of people who arrived at work inebriated increased by almost one-third. That is an alarming fact! An increase in crimes committed "under the influence" has been recorded in 11 of the oblast's rayons. Over the past year the percentage of young people violating antialcohol legislation has increased from 14 to 20 percent.... The problem of eradicating drunkenness and alcoholism and asserting a sober way of life continues to require an uncompromising attitude and purposeful efforts.

The Vinnitsa Oblispolkom and specific ministries and departments have been instructed to step up work to ensure the unconditional fulfillment of the demands of the antialcohol legislation.

RSFSR PRESIDIUM VIEWS COOPERATIVES' PERFORMANCE

PM121341 [Editorial Report] Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 6 May 1987 First Edition carries on page 3 a full-page feature under the general heading "Cooperative Services. Discussed at an [undated] RSFSR Council of Ministers Presidium Session." A brief introductory passage emphasizes the potential of cooperatives as a way in which people can participate in the development of the services area and consumer goods production in light of the Individual Labor Activity Law. The feature opens with excerpts "from the report by RSFSR Gosplan Deputy Chairman A.A. Kotova":

"Cooperatives have an important part to play in organizing small-scale production of items essential in everyday life, an efficient system of services, and a rapid and flexible response to changes in demand.

"They must contribute, as party and government documents have noted, to meet the population's needs by bringing extra local resources into play and by employing pensioners, students, and other citizens who are not engaged in social-sector production.

"First of all I will say commissions or groups to work with cooperatives have been set up and are operating at ispolkoms. Their production and economic activity is being determined and assistance is being given in strengthening the material and technical base, in providing raw materials, supplies, and so forth. In short, the local authorities have a stake, so to speak. [paragraph continues]

"The point is that more and more people want to set up cooperatives offering all manner of services. I think by the end of the year there will be at least 3,000 in the republic.

"The breakdown is as follows: There will be approximately 560 cooperatives producing consumer goods, 1,102 public catering and trade-procurement cooperatives, and 1,300 cooperatives providing consumer services. They will employ around 20,000 people. Mainly citizens not employed in social-sector production.

"The output volume -- again these are preliminary figures, which we have had no way of verifying -- will be R140 million. We have our estimate, so what do we compare it with? We compared it with the work of homeworkers in local industry. The figure exceeds homeworker output in per capita terms.

"RSFSR Potrebsoyuz and the RSFSR Ministries of Consumer Services, Trade, and Local Industry are doing a considerable amount of work to set up various cooperatives.

"The working people of the republic's consumer cooperatives system were the first to get started. They are planning to set up at least 1,000 cooperatives. The RSFSR Potrebsoyuz leaders did not wait for instructions from 'on high,' but issued their own instruction documents and distributed them locally as early as last December. It is worth studying this prompt action and meticulous approach to a new enterprise.

"The Ministry of Consumer Services was somewhat wary about cooperatives at first, but it soon caught on and has already set them up in nearly all regions of the republic.

"We visited the city of Kalingrad, near Moscow, and surveyed the four cooperatives that have been set up there. One -- part of the USSR Gossnab system -- uses secondary raw materials and waste products in the production of consumer goods. It seems to me that it would have been a better idea to have set it up in the Local Industry Ministry system. Why? It is producing goods similar to those produced by local industry: miscellaneous small articles made from plastic, leftover artificial leather, and leatherette. Many problems have arisen with fixing prices and determining the artistic standard of the articles that are produced. Gossnab and the Secondary Raw Materials Procurement and Processing Administration do not have the departments to tackle these problems. The local industry system does, however. If the cooperative were transferred, there would be fewer obstacles and it would develop more quickly.

The next cooperative was one providing consumer services. We liked it very much. The people working there are very enthusiastic. But they have not yet managed to find a leader with good organizing abilities. What if the union of committed workers breaks up as a result of this? The cooperative's service is to manufacture highly fashionable articles and to provide consultations on modern patterns and artistic design of articles. They are all highly skilled specialists. If you come merely for a consultation -- what suits you best, for your appearance, for your circumstances, in terms of where you intend to wear the suit or dress -- they will give you practical advice and make a pattern. If you want them to cut it out for you, they will cut it out and fit it. If you need it sewn, they will do it. They already have rates for all this.

"They also renovate apartments, designing for all tastes -- expensive and inexpensive. The cooperative will accept anyone, as long as he can make a specific contribution. Do you know any foreign languages? Excellent, we'll make a note of that. When someone needs something translated, they make a call and place an order. There have been mistakes, of course. People have arrived saying they were good house painters, capable of renovating apartments, and asked to join the cooperative. They were so eager. They were not turned down. Then, when the work appeared, they made themselves scarce. But I believe these are natural troubles. You have to be more careful about what kind of people you take on. Or you conclude a contract: Fail and you pay a forfeit. Then you would not get someone offering his services on the off-chance.

"The cooperative gets its materials from the trade sector, from city consumer services administration enterprises. They obtained R1,000 worth of credit from the bank for the period when they were organizing. The "Petushok" cafe takes orders from citizens for its own flour products, and take-out facilities have been organized. On holidays parents come with their children, and arrangements are made for family celebrations. The 120-seat "Meridian" cooperative cafe puts on a disco three times a week. In short, they do everything to attract people. The growing popularity of cooperative enterprises has increased the average monthly trade turnover in Ulyanovsk by 50-100 percent, while at the same time the number of working people has fallen.

"All would be fine were it not for certain vexing..., I was going to say accidental circumstances. But no, they are not accidental circumstances. Evidently certain people are trying to further their own selfish interests under the innovation logo. I am talking about some unscrupulous people who are dipping their hands into the state pocket. Certain overenterprising cooperative organizers, for example, set them up in the expectation of obtaining scarce and strictly allocated raw materials. High-quality sheepskins -- for the manufacture of sheepskin and for articles. A comrade from Engels in Saratov Oblast called on me and said: "Antonina Alekseyevna, I know you distribute sheepskins. I have set up a cooperative, so would you please set some superior sheepskins aside for me. I have new equipment." I replied: "If we had quality sheepskins, it would be different. We have the state capacities, but we are not utilizing them precisely because we are short of good material. But we have fourth-grade sheepskins and we can let you have as many as you like. Please go to our warehouse, take a look, and consider how they can be used. We would welcome the creation of such a cooperative." But he did not return. Perhaps he decided to get the sheepskin out of other organizations. You also have to be careful with such people and avoid being taken in by them.

"It must not be forgotten that cooperatives must complement the existing state services and consumer goods production network. Therefore, efforts being made in some places to transfer former enterprises to cooperatives can only occur in the initial period -- to accumulate experience and use up various parts. The phenomenon must not become a general one. Each side has its own preoccupations. Otherwise it would not be wider services and more goods, but an economic and social misalignment: Let the cooperatives get on with it, while we, that is, the ministries and departments, wash our hands of it."

The feature contains brief accounts (300-400 words) of three session speeches on setting income limits, on resources, and on regulations and includes an information section on services offered by cooperatives and on soon to open cooperatives.

The final item is the "closing speech by RSFSR Council of Ministers Chairman V.I. Vorotnikov":

"Summing up the speeches, he noted: The task is for cooperatives to compensate for and expand the forms of service and methods of providing for consumer needs not met by the state system.

"V.I. Vorotnikov then discussed problems which have to be resolved for the development of cooperative forms of services to succeed.

"Objectively speaking, he said, we are at the very beginning of the path and still feeling our way in many areas. Both excessive caution and haste would be harmful. We must not pursue quantity and make a competition out of it: We open 10 cooperatives today, and 5,000 tomorrow. Look how well we are doing, how healthy the situation is!

"The ultimate aim is to ensure the cooperatives make a substantial impact and cover as widely as possible the forms of services which are not fully covered by the state system. It is not a matter of getting a pat on the back.

"Cooperatives have considerable potential. Even during this discussion a whole series of areas came up which we had never suspected, never thought could be exploited by people joining forces in cooperatives. Scraping floors, for example, padding doors, cleaning windows, or recommending what dress or suit to choose, how to decorate and furnish an apartment. You are wondering where to fit a cloakroom, where to position an armchair or a coffee table. You call a specialist, he sketches it out and shows you for a small payment, and you simply rearrange the furniture.

"So I think we had good reason to invite the ministers who have not yet been very enterprising on the question of cooperatives. Local Industry Minister A.G. Shumeyko has apparently embarked on this enterprise, but he is not exploiting all the possibilities. Housing and Municipal Services Minister V.I. Popov and Housing and Civil Construction Minister O.K. Zibrov also have something to think about, particularly as there are enough problems with housing repairs and especially with restoration and architectural design of buildings. It would be quite easy to set up cooperative groups to carry out fine decorative work while housing, cultural facilities, and so forth are under major repair. I think the Ministry of Motor Transport also has something to consider not only from the viewpoint of transport operations, but also from the viewpoint of repairs, maintenance, preventive measures, and preparation of vehicles for inspection. We have an automobile enthusiasts' society in the republic, many of whose members are retired but are splendid mechanics. They could find assistants and start maintaining private cars. People could also form cooperatives to operate taxicab services. To provide services on particular routes, or whatever. After all, there is a shortage of cabs. The State Agro-Industrial Committee with its colossal potential, the Ministry of the Forestry Industry, the Ministry of the Textile Industry, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of the Fuel Industry, the Ministry of Education, and the Ministry of Culture could provide a massive number of services through cooperatives if they wanted.

"We are right, of course, to pay attention to expanding the types of services, but we must also ensure they cover the whole republic and take climatic features and national traditions into account.

"V.I. Vorotnikov stressed the importance of efficient monitoring when setting up cooperatives -- by industrial workers, lawyers, and financial experts. After all, dishonest, unscrupulous people could get in on the act. He also drew attention to the flexible approach to the payment of credit: Who it should be given to, how, and for what.

"But the main thing, he stressed, is not to make the new services system overregimented, not to hem it in like a bear in its den so that it cannot come out, or if it does come out, it is immediately speared. It must be given the chance to develop, it must be strengthend.

"We may make mistakes, there may be flaws, but we should not lose heart. Even state enterprises are finding restructuring a terribly difficult job; and individual labor activity is unexplored territory. We must not panic or go to extremes but calmly correct the situation.

"Finally, I want to talk about accounting. It is necessary to think very carefully about the new system. Accounting is necessary, of course, but it must be a delicate business so that it does not come a form of accountability that frightens people away. No exaggerations, please. Otherwise we will start recording premises, numbers, wages, and expenditure. Our accounts must be general, enabling us to follow the process, but not all-embracing in a way that is unnecessary at the initial stage. Gosplan, the Central Statistical Administration, the Ministry of Finance, in conjunction with the ispolkoms, must think everything through.

"Talking about the draft procedural decision of the RSFSR Council of Ministers Presidium that had been submitted for discussion, V.I. Vorotnikov noted that it must be made more detailed, broader, and more objective and reflect the way the RSFSR is carrying out the party and government resolution on developing individual labor activity, what achievements have been made, what experienced has been acquired, what needs to be looked at, and what difficulties and problem areas are arising and how to deal with them."

PRAVDA EXAMINES SAFRONOV INCARCERATION, RELEASE

PM121535 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 May 87 Second Edition p 2

[Article by Correspondent V. Prokushev under the rubric "Party Life: The Story Behind the Conflict": "'Prosecution Terminated...'"]

[Text] Ufa [Bashkir ASSR] -- Three years ago, Leonid Pavlovich Safronov, second secretary of Ufa Party Gorkom, was expelled from the CPSU and sentenced to 6 years' imprisonment and confiscation of property. Three years passed before he emerged from the old, detached building on Pushkin Street in Moscow. The extract that he had been given from a USSR Prosecutor's Office resolution dated 16 February this year read: "The criminal prosecution against you has been terminated on the basis of Article 5, Item 2 of the RSFSR Law of Criminal Procedure on the grounds that your actions lacked a criminal element." Just three lines on a sheet of paper. But each of them had cost 1 year of a life marred by the nightmares of interrogations, humiliating surveillance, searches, solitary confinement cells during investigation, prisons....

For over 20 years L. Safronov had worked at Bashelektromontazh -- one of the republic's largest construction trusts. He had graduated from worker to manager and was awarded two orders. [paragraph continues]

The trust had a reputation for success; it was no coincidence that its leader had been promoted to the responsible post of second secretary of the gorkom of a city of 1 million people. A talented organizer, indefatigable in work, and exacting but not petty, he soon won confidence and sympathy within the gorkom apparatus, the city raykoms, and at enterprises and construction sites. In the last 18 months he even stood in for the first secretary, who was often sick. The party obkom gave Safronov personal responsibility for the most important and often "difficult" projects, and they were completed on time. Communists remember the city party-economic aktiv meeting where M. Shakirov, the party obkom first secretary who was usually stinting in his praise, addressed astonishingly emotional words of gratitude to Safronov and urged people to follow his example. Yet, a few months later, Safronov was arrested.

Leonid Pavlovich traveled back that night from Moscow to Ufa and scarcely had time to recover from his journey before the bell to his apartment rang. There on the step stood an early "visitor" in police uniform: "Let's go, citizen."

They "proceeded" to the republic prosecutor's office. Special investigator A. Bondar read out the charge: As chief of the Salavat installation administration you unlawfully paid for a well to be sunk for a horticultural cooperative, causing the state a loss of R4,000, and you are criminally liable.

"Excuse me," Safronov said in amazement, "but I have never been in charge of the Salavat section."

"That is irrelevant," Bondar said emphatically.

V. Pavlov, chairman of the Leninskiy people's court, who passed sentence, apparently used the same principle: In the courtroom the defendant was handcuffed and taken away under guard.

After 7 months, Safronov returned to Ufa from somewhere less remote -- the collegium of the RSFSR Supreme Court reversed all the verdicts of the Bashkir judicial authorities. The first thing he had to do was to give a written undertaking not to leave the region. By that time A. Zelikman, chief of the Bashkir ASSR Prosecutor's Office investigation section, and his assistants had begun a new criminal case more subtle than the first. They recalled that 8 years earlier the trust managed by Safronov had built an electrical power line allegedly not covered by the plan. Under the letter of the law the charge carried a penalty ranging from 12 years' imprisonment to execution by firing squad. We have already said how the latest bogus case ended.

It is impossible here to set out all the ins and outs of the judicial investigations in the pair of cases which are the highlight of the Safronov affair -- they run to 28 volumes and more than 12,000 pages. Furthermore that is unnecessary, because all the finishing touches were supplied by the USSR Prosecutor's Office. There are other questions which interest concerned public opinion in the Bashkir ASSR: How could this have happened, who wanted it done, and who is responsible for it? In view of the present-day process of democratization of our entire life, these questions are particularly relevant. I am not about to give exhaustive answers to them, but I am going to try to express some views.

In a letter to the PRAVDA correspondents' center, L. Safronov himself explains the origins of the persecution in the following terms. [paragraph continues]

A gorkom plenum was held in July 1983 to elect a first secretary. One hour before it began the bureau members held a brief meeting and the "No 1" ["pervyy"] announced that it was proposed to elect R. Rakhmatullin, who had been first secretary of Ufa's Ordzhonikidzevskiy Rayon. Safronov criticized the nominee sharply, saying that he was arrogant, vulgar, and clashed openly with people. He was supported by gorkom secretary V. Shitikov. When it came to the vote, opinions were divided and the majority favored Rakhmatullin. Then they went to the plenum.

En route from the office to the meeting hall, the "No 1," Safronov alleges, forbade him from expressing his opinion at the plenum and threatened to "destroy" him if he acted otherwise. Safronov spoke. The very next day he came under blatant pressure and submitted an application to be relieved of his post.

The application was granted 4 months later -- that was how long it took to gather some "compromising material." One night Safronov was compulsorily discharged from the cardiology center and the next day the gorkom plenum sacked him. Then he spoke from the platform about the order to keep quiet and the threat to "destroy" him. "Today's plenum is a practical step toward the realization of that task," he concluded.

G. Fedotov, chairman of the republic's people's control committee, who addressed the plenum, viewed the situation differently. He said that it was no coincidence that Safronov had to lie about the threat because he had received warnings about the unlawful payment for the well and the obkom bureau had instructed him and I. Khodosov, chairman of the obkom party control commission, and the republic's prosecutor (now deceased) to investigate. The instruction had been issued only the day before, and G. Fedotov was already stating categorically from the platform that, because of their gravity, these misdemeanors were punishable crimes.

Hastily and in gross violation of the regulations, Safronov was stripped of his deputy's immunity and the investigation began. At the same time he was deprived of his right to work in the Bashkir ASSR.

During a recent meeting with V. Shitikov -- who has resigned as secretary because of ill-health -- I said that the gorkom bureau members for some reason seemed to forget the bans and threats even though they had all gone into the hall together.

"There was such a ban, and it is simply dishonorable to deny it," Vladimir Aleksandrovich objected. "The Obkom first secretary held his post for many years. Gradually an aura of infallibility and unquestionable authority had been created around him. For example, in cadre questions he worked on the principle that 'I know best.' Then someone suddenly took the floor and refuted that 'axiom.'"

I asked M. Shakirov: Why did events take such a turn? Midkhat Sakirovich said that Safronov had not asked him that question and did not know what was going on.

Well, maybe... yet, this is not a matter of some ordinary worker but the secretary of the capital's party gorkom. Furthermore, it is common knowledge that Safronov had sent the obkom bureau a written request to investigate his case.

V. Kotov, former second secretary of the Oktyabrskiy Raykom, who was involved in the same case as Safronov, having also been charged under the same article -- with the possible death sentence -- and who was also acquitted, has written to PRAVDA about how investigator Zelikman conducted the interrogations and tried to obtain false evidence. "Why are you so stubborn?" the investigator said. "The 'boss himself' is following the case, and it is in your interests to testify as we want or else you'll end up in jail."

Unconcerned about the presence of a competent official during the interrogation, (the outcome was decided anyway!) Zelikman reported by telephone on the course of the case to obkom commission chairman Khodosov. The latter was acting on the direct orders of the bureau and the first secretary: "Investigate and report back."

Some time before, V. Kotov had been a party obkom instructor and was well aware of the atmosphere prevailing there: "I didn't leave 'No 1's' office until late evening. I had no reception hours; I received hardly anyone. My custodian, former obkom secretary V. Manayev, would nervously dial the direct line, and if there was no answer after 3-4 seconds he quickly put the receiver down. He tried to reach the first secretary via the reception room but did not always succeed. Most apparatus workers had not had access to his office for years. They tried to catch the first secretary in the reception room when he was on his way home. But as a rule even those attempts were thwarted. But G. Fedotov -- he was then chief of the Party-Organizational Work Department -- and Khodosov, who issued his instructions, always stressed that this order came from Midkhat Zakirovich."

This extract from the letter sheds light on many things, I believe. N. Sorochkin, secretary of the Oktyabrskiy party raykom and a close acquaintance of Safronov both in work and everyday life, was astonished: How could the "boss himself" phone a mere gorkom second secretary at home late at night and talk with him for 2 hours "about nothing at all"? Like it or not, Safronov had become the chief's "blue-eyed boy." But not for long, because he did not realize how fortunate his position was -- he had the wrong character for that, he was no opportunist. Anyway, he managed to make an impression and overshadow the "old favorites." Some of the real power which the "shadow cabinet" had become used to slipped from their grasp. They could not tolerate that. A convenient opportunity arose: The "rival," inexperienced in intrigues, voiced criticism from the plenum rostrum, you see, and that was the beginning of his downfall. He condemned himself -- in front of "No 1" and his cronies.

The party says that to express your opinion honestly and openly, critically and in a principled way is an important feature of restructuring. The opponents of restructuring try to discredit those with initiative, turn everything upside down, and transform initiative into a feature of their backstage chicanery.

Will, intelligence, firmness of character, and organizational talent are the indispensable qualities of a leader. But if his moral and ethical qualities and humanity are relegated to the background, his natural talent and will develop into egoism and a lust for power. A collective is created around him not on the healthy foundation of like-mindedness and mutual respect but on the shifting sands of servility, fear, and toadyism. For all the many outward signs of attention, such a leader is profoundly isolated because the hypocrite may betray him at any convenient moment. But so long as he is in the presence of the "hero figure" he will try to show his devotion and thus will not even balk at brutality.

Servility is the most dangerous social evil -- no less an evil than, for example, theft or drunkenness. The thief and the drunkard can still be taken by the scruff of the neck but the lickspittle has powerful protection, you cannot catch him bare-handed. And no one catches him out; he does the catching himself, using the powerful weapons which he sometimes has at his disposal, such as the law enforcement organs. They aren't too fussy about the methods they use.

I. Pechnikov, former chief of a grain products association, was accused of "criminal conspiracy" with Safronov. "From 1100 through 1900 hours, investigator Zelikman used threats and provocation to try to force me to give false evidence," he wrote to PRAVDA. "Finally he warned me that I should think about it well and give the evidence that he wanted or else I would be expelled from the party, sacked, and charged." After receiving an angry refusal, Zelikman and investigator Karimov (he received a medal after the "operation") took Pechnikov to his apartment and produced their search warrant. "Put your money and valuables on the table!" they ordered.

Yes, Ivan Nikitovich Pechnikov, who volunteered for the front and joined the Communist Party before going into battle, later first secretary of a raykom, delegate to a party congress, and a Bashkir ASSR Supreme Soviet deputy, had accumulated quite a few items of value in his lifetime. But not the kind that the investigation meant, they were of a moral kind: the Order of the Great Patriotic War, First Class, and the medal "For Valor" and three Orders of the Labor Red Banner. For want of anything better, these items of value -- order certificates and a party card -- were also attached to his file. At midnight Pechnikov was placed in solitary confinement in prison and kept there for over a month. All of Zelikman's questions amounted to one thing: Just testify that at Safronov's request money was transferred for the construction of a power transmission line. A master of subtle psychological pressure, Zelikman promised: "You will spend the holiday with your family if...". He signed the ruling altering the subpoena [mery presecheniya] on 30 April, and Pechnikov was released from solitary confinement on 4 May. "The messenger was late taking the ruling to the jail," the investigator explained to me.

Everything followed a pattern: Pechnikov refused to act against his conscience and was expelled from the party, sacked, and charged -- the financial violations were termed a misdemeanor. It is true that the RSFSR Prosecutor's Office stopped the case "in connection with a change in the situation," that is, on the grounds that Pechnikov was previously a danger to society but had now ceased to be so. This led the old communist to the gloomy conclusion: "I regard the actions of the Bashkir Prosecutor's Office as a relapse into the past."

Everything seemed absolutely simple: Investigations have been mounted against an innocent man -- announce this publicly, and that will be an end to the matter. By the way, this is the rigorous demand of the party line aimed at comprehensively strengthening law and order and the observance of citizens' rights and interests. Every instance of the violation of the rule of law, no matter who is responsible, must be given a principled assessment and strictly condemned and the people guilty of it must be severely punished. In practice people sometimes try to circumvent this demand, and not without some success -- law-breakers who are actually required to uphold the law are protected by those who inspire and initiate legal proceedings. Here is an example.

There were two meetings between L. Safronov and Bashkir ASSR Meritorious Physician R. Bogdanov. The first was in the gorkom second secretary's office, where Bogdanov asked for protection against the tyranny, and afterward in the prison's investigation room, where they soon found themselves in neighboring bunks. [paragraph continues]

The Safronov branch of the case was similar to Bogdanov's. Another common feature was that both "branches" bore an identical hallmark and followed a familiar pattern.

M. Kamalov, the republic minister of health, (recently dismissed from his post), ordered the transfer of R. Bogdanov from the rayon to Ufa as chief doctor of a 1,000-bed hospital which is under construction, and in exchange for such a "favor," of course, regards him as "his man." But "his man" proved obstinate: At first he refused to take part in the major sensational swindle in the republic involving Kamalov's personal dacha and consequently ceased to be "his man." The hospital's commissioning date approached, Kamalov had to make a report, but Bogdanov dug his heels in: I will not sign the acceptance document, he said; there are a million and a half things that have not been finished off here.

Obkom secretary G. Nikitin, who looks after health care and administrative organs, should have sided with the chief doctor but instead gave tacit (or was it outright?) consent to the reprisals against Bogdanov. Zaynetdinov, the Ufa city prosecutor and a relative of Kamalov, fabricated a criminal case and set events in motion, R. Bogdanov wrote to PRAVDA: an investigation, compulsory psychiatric and legal examination, and loss of deputy's credentials and party membership.... The arrest warrant soon followed from republic deputy prosecutor A. Davletshin (who is now being nominated for promotion). After 8 months in custody the Oktyabrskiy people's court brought in its verdict: 4 years' imprisonment.

This miscarriage was thwarted by higher authorities, and in the middle of last year the criminal affairs collegium of the RSFSR Supreme Court and the RSFSR Prosecutor's Office reversed all the decisions brought by the Bashkir authorities against Bogdanov and terminated the criminal case because of the absence of any crime. R. Bogdanov is now due to be readmitted to the party and, under a USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium 18 May 1981 decree, to his old job, with compensation for the material loss incurred. V. Kravtsev, the new Bashkir prosecutor, is also insisting on that. However, those people who authorized the flagrantly unlawful investigation and trial have no intention of carrying out the decree. "Some questions have yet to be resolved," G. Nikitin said to me ambiguously, suggesting thereby that Bogdanov has still not managed to escape their clutches and that they are in no hurry to assume their responsibility.

"A collective guarantee within the republic's highest party apparatus" is the term used for such plots in a letter to PRAVDA by N. Khusnullin, former deputy chairman of the Sovetskiy rayispolkom, who was expelled from the party on some trifling ground and recently readmitted by the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee. By adapting to circumstances and harshly punishing others for wrongdoing, he writes, they protect each other and do not see their own obvious faults. He cites examples of how they became rich at the state's expense.

Servility generates opportunism. There is no place alongside that for sincerity or a readiness to devote oneself to the cause; instead it becomes normal conduct to barter your conscience for the sake of a peaceful life, well-being, and material benefits. Unfortunately opportunists have by no means been eradicated in the party, and they are one of the main brakes on restructuring.

The signs of change have not passed Bashkiria by, of course. The "black Mondays" at the Ufa Party Gorkom -- the weekly outbursts at the apparat conferences - are already becoming a thing of the past, and crowds of leaders no longer wait around to be seen in R. Rakhmatullin's waiting room. [paragraph continues]

Obkom bureau sessions have become more businesslike. Raykom and gorkom first secretaries and economic leaders have been elected from lists containing several candidates. On the eve of the recent CPSU obkom plenum on cadre questions the republic's newspaper published an appeal to working people to submt their suggestions and express their wishes on deepening restructuring and accelerating socioeconomic development. The suggestions that have been received are being studied and are already being used in the plenum's work.

Nevertheless, these changes have mote of an external character, whereas the underlying processes are following the old course.

"We went to several neighboring oblasts to study their experience," V. Pchelintsev, chief of a department of Ufa Party Gorkom, said. "We saw a broad and free exchange of opinions and collectivism and democracy in decisionmaking. We are very short of that."

"The party gorkom and obkom are still exerting overt pressure on cadre questions and other matters," N. Shaymardanov, second secretary of the Ufimskiy CPSU Raykom, confirms. The same opinion was expressed by Sovetskiy party raykom secretary Sh. Bikkulov and other party leaders with whom I have talked recently. The mail received at PRAVDA's correspondents' center in Ufa also demonstrates that fear of initiative and the deep-rooted corrupt style of work based on the principle of unthinking obedience are a heavy burden and that restructuring is surely entering many people's minds and attitudes. But there are still some old obkom workers who jump to attention when the direct line from the "chief's office" rings.

The authors of the numerous letters in defense of Safronov, Bogdanov, Pechnikov, and subsequently those people who have spoken with your correspondent were, as a rule, summoned to the prosecutor's office or to party organs for prejudiced "conversations." The other day at the obkom I was shown a letter from V. Yudin, chairman of the Oktyabriskiy People's Court, with whom I had had a good and frank conversation the day before. In his letter, in the form of an explenatory note to the obkom first secretary, he glossed over all the problems, saying: Generally speaking I do not know much about this Safronov affair. Finally he reported that the correspondent's conduct during the conversation was correct.

Thank you for that, Vladimir Petrovich! It is just a shame that you, a veteran, hesitated, afraid that something might get out on the eve of the elections to the people's courts. But the people will appreciate you for showing the principledness of a front-line fighter, not for this cautions rearguard action.

The best thing would be to burn all this rubbish, to snap this dried twig and throw it on the fire. It will burn all the brighter, even though some people will still secretly pour cold water on it from the old cracked pots.

WORKERS 'DISSATISFIED' WITH RESTRUCTURING PROGRESS

LD072123 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1700 GMT on 7 May, in its "Vremya" newscast, carries a 3 and 1/2 minute report from the Vladimir Ilich Electromechanical works in Moscow, with video showing interviews with workers and construction work underway. Television correspondent A. Krutov, identified by screen caption, reports on the progress at the works since the arrival of a new manager with plans for a complete shake-up in working arrangements and for the construction of new shops. He reports that:

"The old walls were pulled down and the customary tranquil life collapsed -- 'from payday to payday with a bonus.' Now everyone is being asked to do what he or she was supposed to be doing and a little bit more. People have begun to leave the factory. Some didn't like the new demands; some realized that they were in the wrong place; and others had absolutely no faith in the possibility of changing anything."

Krutov interviews N.N. Khrycheva, a foreman, about her decision to leave the factory. She replies that "it has simply become hard to work. There has often been nothing to do due to a lack of parts and naturally people are dissatisfied. As for me, my nerves gave out and so I left -- that is, I didn't leave but handed in my notice. But then I realized that I couldn't abandon people at such a moment and so I stayed." She goes on to stress that people understand the need for restructuring, but "so far we have not seen in real terms just what is awaiting us in the near future. We know what we will have by 1990, what wonderful promises by the year 2000, but as for what awaits us in a month or 2 months, we still do not know. Perhaps our management is at fault in that the plans do not get down to shop-floor level, to the workers. People do not know their fate, what to expect tomorrow."

Krutov draws the conclusion that "restructuring at the works has revealed the problem of midlevel management. In the works' headquarters ideas are put forward together with methods of resolving them, but they either fade away before reaching the workers or are implemented in a formalistic way. Even today, 2 years into the reconstruction it is supported by only 22 percent of the management staff."

Finally, P.N. Skripinskiy, the works director, complains about a lack of leadership from the ministry, concluding that "in words, the ministry renders us complete support, but in deed, things are being dragged out, and this is undermining the basic task of putting the works in order during this 5-year plan."

SIX-WEEK BLAZE CONTINUES IN BAYKAL TAYGA

LD120516 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0445 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Moscow, 12 May (TASS) -- Fires have been blazing for 1 and 1/2 months now in the Baykal Tayga. According to a report in today's SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA the number of fires in Chita Oblast was briefly reduced to 30. Recently fires have flared up with new vigor. By the morning of 11 May, 76 fires had been pinpointed in the Baykal Tayga, including 12 new blazes. The overall number of fires in the forests of the oblast in April and May is approaching 600.

One of the worst blazes came very close to the oblast center. There was a smoke screen over Chita for 3 weeks.

Approximately 2,500 volunteers and people from enterprises and organizations in the oblast have already joined in fighting the fire. More than 600 parachutists from many towns in the Soviet Union are involved in airborne forestry protection. Hundreds of airborne and ground based equipment units have been put into operatio. Dry and windy weather, which still prevails in the Baykal area, is fueling the fire, the paper reports.

RESTRUCTURING OF ECONOMIC ACCOUNTABILITY AIRED

PM121415 Moscow TRUD in Russian 6 May 87 p 2

[Part one of two-part article by P.G. Bunich, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, under the rubric "Improving the Economic Mechanism": "Economic Accountability in Action and on Paper. Polemical Notes"; first two paragraphs are reader's letter; third paragraph is TRUD editorial note]

[Text] I do not know whether the editorial office will publish my letter, but I consider this issue to be a very important one. The progress of restructuring in the economy will depend largely on how we resolve it. What am I talking about? Today many enterprises are working in the new way, in conditions of self-financing and economic accountability. However, a strange situation is developing: We are pinning such great hopes on the new economic mechanism and making a great effort to propagandize it, yet sometimes the performance of these enterprises is even poorer than that of those where there is no self-financing. Please excuse my harsh words, but what then is the point of these changes? Surely we are not implementing them just to be able to "tick them off," for the record? After all what matters most is the end result...

V. Miroshnichenko, engineer, Moscow

The editorial office asked P.G. Bunish, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, to reply to this angry letter:

The question raised by Comrade Miroshnichenko is a very topical one and needs to be carefully examined. Of course, I could simply say that the progressive ideas of self-financing and economic accountability are often watered down during their practical implementation or supplanted by old, routine, and ineffective methods of work. That is, the facades are repainted while the economic structures remain the same. However, this short answer would not only not explain the problem but would, on the contrary, merely raise new questions. What is needed here is a detailed and well-reasoned discussion.

First of all, what is the aim of the transition to self-financing? This principle is supposed to stimulate labor collectives' interest in producing more, at a lower cost, to a higher standard, and at a greater pace, precisely fulfilling contract commitments, and following the logic of scientific and technical progress. This alone must ensure that they have sufficient resources for labor remuneration and social and production development. A progressive aim? Unquestionably. For this reason the transition to self-financing has become a party program demand.

Today all enterprises of the Ministry of Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building, the Ministry of Instrument Making, Automation Equipment, and Control Systems, the Ministry of the Automotive Industry, the Ministry of the Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry, and the Ministry of Light Industry, 37 major enterprises in other industrial sectors, part of the agro-industrial sector and the construction industry, all shipping lines and organizations of the Ministry of the Maritime Fleet, and a number of civil aviation, consumer service, consumer cooperative, and trade enterprises are operating on this principle. It is planned to introduce self-financing on the railroads and in communications enterprises, the State Committee for Publishing Houses, Printing Plants, and the Book Trade, and the State Committee for Foreign Tourism... And of course, in a year or two all the country's enterprises will be operating in these conditions.

Quite recently it would have been difficult even to imagine self-financing on this scale. After all, it is a question of the active utlization of commodity-money relations which -- to put it mildly -- was not encouraged in our country for many years...

Unfortunately, the high pace and large scale of the transition to self-financing have been achieved without profound essential transformations. This, frankly speaking, is the explanation for the uncommonly swift formal "headway" we have made. Yet formalism, as is known, has a detrimental effect on any living cause. It is no accident that the old plan indicators for production dynamics and efficiency have been retained for the remainder of the current 5-year period both for the enterprises and sectors which have been switched to self-financing and those which have not. And self-financing enterprises are no better, and sometimes worse, at fullfilling them than those where self-financing has not yet been introduced.

Let us examine the actual reasons for this phenomenon. Self-financing means that the enterprise covers all expenditure from its earnings. And I mean all expenditure and not just expenditure funded from profits, as is often claimed in specialist literature. The difference is substantial. Earnings are all the funds obtained by an enterprise from its output sales. Profits are what remains after the cost of materials, depreciation, wages, and so forth has been paid. Under the self-financing system all this expenditure is covered by the enterprise. And, what is more, a considerable proportion of the earnings is swallowed up by material expenditure.

The first material expenditure is the depreciation deduction. It must be deducted from the enterprise's earnings and set aside so that when fixed assets have to be replaced, the financial resources for this are available. Yet what is happening in reality? Quite the reverse. What is happening in respect of almost all self-financing collectives is an irreversible and nonreturnable redistribution of their depreciation fund with capital being switched from new enterprises to old ones. Ministries take away earnings from certain enterprises and give them to others. This is the first crack that is showing in the system of self-financing.

This is being dealt with in the Law on the State Enterprise whose draft makes provision for all depreciation deductions to remain in the possession of a given enterprise. However, this is only part of the problem of depreciation, and not even the main one. Matters are worse when the cost of construction is set too high. This automatically leads to an unjustified growth of the budget cost of fixed assets and consequently to exaggerated depreciation deductions. A plant which commissions excessively expensive projects stands to gain twice: First, it augments its depreciation fund, and second, in the light of the increased expenditure it will try to raise both profits and prices.

It may seem paradoxical but it is a fact that the greater the expense, the greater the advantage. However, if the prices were not based on the expenditure method, if they allowed for depreciation on a scale commensurate with the socially necessary expenditure, then exaggerated depreciation costs would also fall away. And then collectives would also refuse to agree to excessive construction costs. As you can see, a revolutionary restructuring of the pricing system is an urgent task.

Now let us take a look how enterprises pay for he cost of raw materials, materials, parts, fuel, power, and water. Without them paying these costs, self-financing is not conceivable either. Outwardly there seems to be no problem here since collectives have always settled the accounts for the aforementioned expenses. And in reality? To cover the cost of a material expenditure enterprises used to receive normative amounts of circulating capital. They received this capital from above, they did not have to earn it. When this was not sufficient, they took out credits.

The main flaw of the system of funding material expenditure consisted of the fact that since surplus circulating capital allocated from above, as well as loans, were used to cover this expenditure, the norms set for this expenditure were exaggerated. There was enough money not just to cover the inefficient management of material resources but also to finance a buildup of incredibly inflated stocks of these resources.

Under the current system of self-financing, the normatives for circulating capital are computed by the enterprises themselves and the fund is formed from their own resources. Is this progress? Let us not be too hasty with an answer. For some reason the normatives for material expenditure have so far not decreased and the material stocks are not diminishing. There are many reasons for this. Lack of stability in the supply situation and inability to meet unforeseen requirements...

As a matter of urgency, centralized norm-setting for material stocks has been introduced. However, in my view this will not resolve the problems. Just take a look at what happens. An enterprise has overstated its material expenditure. The expenditure has been approved in the directive plan. Does the plant stand to lose economically? Not a great deal. Since the expenditure is great, profit will be reduced. And this leads to a decrease in the payments from profits into the budget. So the result is that if more money has been spent, less will be paid into the country's central fund. This order (or rather disorder) creates the second crack in the self-financing system. In order to eliminate it it is necessary to introduce a different tax system for settling enterprises' accounts in respect of the budget.

There can be no real self-financing without the enterprises earning their own wage funds. The enterprises where self-financing has been introduced are forming these funds as follows. Last year's (base) funds are used as a point of departure. Then, depending on the increase (decrease) in normative net output they are increased (decreased) with the help of special coefficients. Thus what matters most is how the wages were calculated in the past. Meanwhile, last year's funds may have been overstated because they were based on low output norms or exaggerated staff schedules. At the same time consumers' rating of the quality of output is not taken into consideration. In other words, these funds are subjective in many respects.

Kept unchanged, they guarantee an undeservedly easy life to some, while disadvantaging others. The former are in the majority. However, this does not benefit society. The wages are high, the goods are few, and their quality is low. Plants are still accepting these goods but the population is increasingly refusing to accept them. The money is not circulating, it is building up, payments into savings accounts are increasing.

So where is the solution? It is well known. It is expedient to form the wage fund solely on the basis of current results, completely dissociating it from past results. The following is one of the possible options. Material expenditure, contributions to the budget, and payments to the bank and the sector ministry are deducted from the earnings. What remains is the economically accountable income. This has to be divided into the wage fund (or the labor remuneration fund if it includes the material incentive fund) and net profit to be disposed of by the collective. He who works well will earn well, but for those who work badly pay day will be retribution day.

The main question is how to calculate the wage fund (labor remuneration fund). Should it be done in accordance with normatives which reflect the size of the wages paid out in the past? That way we would return to what we are trying to avoid.

The best thing that can be proposed is to allow enterprises themselves to divide economically accountable income into wages and net profit. The collective must think not just about present income but also future income, and must make allowance for capital investment. In these conditions it becomes economically disadvantageous to allow disproportions in favor of labor remuneration to occur in the distribution of the economically accountable income. At the same time, in present conditions where collectives have not yet gotten used to taking care of their future there is a danger that production development funds will be "eaten up." Therefore it is proposed, as an intermediate solution, to establish these funds on the basis of sector (group) normatives.

Practical steps toward the establishment of the new system, where labor remuneration depends directly on current achievements, are being taken by small light industry enterprises in Estonia and also the production cooperatives which are currently being set up.

KOMMUNIST AUTHOR DISCUSSES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LD061532 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1210 GMT 6 May 87

[From the "On the Publication of Another Edition of KOMMUNIST Magazine" program with academician and author Aleksey Matveyevich Rumyantsev, presented by Boris Simonov -- live]

[Text] [Simonov] Economists continue to write for the pages of the magazine's issues. They reply to questions sent to the editor in connection with the state and prospects for development of the science of economics under the conditions of restructuring. One of the authors, Academician Aleksey Matveyevich Rumyantsev, is at our microphone today. What, in your view, is the main principle for a real guarantee of the democratization of economic life?

[Rumyantsev] In my view, the main thing is the open preparation of national economic plan tasks, the tasks of the enterprise, the workshop, the team, and the participation of the broad masses of the working people in preparing the plan tasks themselves. As is known, democratic centralism in the economy is the main method for the construction of socialism, this is a very important point. Lenin foresaw that because the working class was not able to lead in the first years of the revolution, it needed forms to help the masses acquire the skill of leading, and the country enhanced the population's education level. And now, for every thousand people engaged in production, almost 900 have a secondary of higher education. These are now independently thinking people who understand the whole of the situation. They understand and can see the false accounting, the fraud, and so on, they can see all this and it is clear that they are able to say what is going on.

[Simonov] Now we probably need to [word indistinct] with you the draft law on the socialist enterprise. This provides for the democratic foundations, workers councils and so on.

[Rumyantsev] Yes, they are provided for precisely so that everyone can be drawn directly into responsible discussion of every issue in production, so that during work time everyone can really be engaged, fully engaged in his labor. That is where our economic or (?Soviet economic) essence will show itself. It is to this end that we need independence at every level.

[Simonov] What about the future of centralization, will it be weakened?

[Ryumantsev] Today's technology does not permit decentralization. The transfer of production from manual labor to mechanical labor, -- today's scientific-technological revolution is raising this mechanical labor to ever new heights -- requires very close attention in the context of the national economy as an integrated whole.

[Simonov] What will the functions of the ministries be?

[Ryumantsev] I think that our ministries are not engaged in what they should be doing. Our ministries should be engaged in policy, economic policy. What they should do is study the whole process in the context of their industry, and moreover in the context of industries that are interconnected. Transportation, for instance, why should transportation be railways only, with air transportation separate from it and river transport separate, and sea transport separate from that, and motor transport separate from that? Why? For the purpose of policy, they have to be unified; and then they will be that sector in the state economic apparatus which embraces all aspects of transportation issues.

[Simonov] As a scientist, who do you see the immediate prospects? What efforts would you like to see from scientists so that they can help our national economy in the rapid movement that has been mapped out by the 27th Congress and the January Plenum of our party's central committee?

[Ryumantsev] I think that at the moment what we must first require of our scientists is a thorough study of the dynamics of demands [dvizheniye potrebnostey], the quantity and quality of demands, and the level to which they are useful and sensible -- everything that stems from the current level of development of productive forces. Second, we must make a very profound analysis not just of our condition, but also of the future, that is, forecasting. Moreover this view to the future should be not "on the basis of past performance," but on the basis of what we need, the fact we have these demands: we can see that certain demands are dictated by the world development level of productive forces while we have such and such, and that gives us some pointers.

[Simonov] Aleksey Matveyevich, in your replies published in KOMMUNIST, you spoke of the fact that despite the phenomena of stagnation in the sixties, scientists continued, on an individual basis, to work on certain problems, connected with the development of our economic science, but they were not taken into account by people then; they were not supported.

[Ryumantsev] Yes, who should have taken account of them? That is why these ideas remained, so to speak, unimplemented. That is on the one hand; on the other hand you are quite right to speak about the fact that this must now be further systematized, crystallized, linked up, (?purely scientifically), both in regard to the political aspect, in regard to the social aspect, and in regard to the economic and the technological aspects, that is, comprehensively, what we need now is a lot of work to provide an integrated examination of our management problem. Because the person is the very foundation of both productive forces and of production relations, because productive forces include the person, and without the person there is neither machinery nor raw materials. By dint of these circumstances it is the person that (?we have to value).

NUCLEAR ENERGY MINISTER ON NEW SAFEGUARDS

LD111036 Moscow TASS in English 1015 GMT 11 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 11 TASS -- By the year of 1990 electricity output at Soviet nuclear power stations will have practically doubled as compared with today. This will be due to the new nuclear-power stations becoming operational and new power generating units going on line at the nuclear-power stations in operation now. All this entails the need for ensuring safeguards for their operation, a TASS correspondent was told by Nikolay Lukonin, USSR minister of nuclear power. The safety of operation depends in a considerable measure on the skills and professional standards of personnel of the nuclear-power stations.

Therefore, the minister continued, along with other problems, we attach now paramount significance to the selection and training of personnel for the nuclear-power engineering industry, manning nuclear-power stations with people who would be equal to the demand in any situation.

An extraordinary test on the professional standards of members of the personnel of nuclear-power stations without exception has been recently concluded. Attention was devoted not only to the professional, but also to the human qualities of the personnel. Stringent demands were made on people in key positions, on whom, the faultless operation of electric power stations depends in the first place.

The package of measures to ensure the safety of operation of the nuclear power stations also includes methods of training personnel at special training centres, Lukonin continued. New training centres are soon to be opened at the Novovoronezh and Smolensk nuclear-power stations. In the future such centres are to be opened also in other places.

Many of those familiar with the present-day practices believe that the personnel of nuclear-power stations is now being trained for work almost as painstakingly as the cosmonauts, the minister said. The similarity should be emphasised by the fact that we are to "play" at training equipment in training centres even the most unbelievable situations that may theoretically arise in the practices of operation of nuclear-power stations. It will become clear already in the course of such training sessions who can be trusted work at operating reactors, and who is not yet ready to take his place at the control panel of a nuclear-power station.

We mention today only one aspect of ensuring the safety of operation of nuclear power plants -- the human factor. But we also vigorously work on that problem in all other areas, the minister said in conclusion.

PRAVDA NOTES FURTHER DETAILS ON ICEBREAKER SIBIR

PM071509 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 May 87 Second Edition p 6

[Article under the "Modern Adventures" rubric by special correspondents A. Khramtsov, V. Chebakov, and V. Chertkov: "Before the Trip to the Pole"]

[Text] Murmansk, 6 May -- In 48 hours the nuclear-powered icebreaker Sibir is departing for a voyage in the high latitudes. Its crew faces a difficult journey through the icefields of the Arctic seas toward the North Pole-27 ice drift station. They have to lift some polar research workers from the ice floe which is breaking up and, if the situation allows, proceed subsequently to the North Pole.

"Well, how are you? Yu. Tikhonov, chief of the North Pole-27 station heard over the radio from expedition leader Hero of the Soviet Union A. Chilingarov, deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Control.

"Normal. Here is the situation. The ice floe is 300 meters by 250 meters. Temperature, minus 19 degrees. We await the Sibir with impatience. Hearing you has given us fresh strength..."

We picture in our minds people glued to their radio out there on the ice floe. It is incredible that even a powerful atomic icebreaker like the Sibir can reach such a place.

An IL-18 is carrying out strategic reconnaissance. This is the first time that the Ministry of the Fish Industry's airborne laboratory has been used to explore the ice through which the icebreaker's unusual course runs. The video and television apparatus with which the IL-18 is equipped has told the expedition members much about the ice situation.

"The expedition's main aim," Chilingarov explained to us, "is scientific research in the little studied polar region. The second task is to evacute one station and organize another -- North Pole-29."

"These sailors will not let you down. The Sibar is in good working order: it is ready for a difficult journey, there is relatively little to do before it sets sail," V. Zbarashchenko, USSR deputy maritime fleet minister, says, ending the conversation with the drift station.

At the moment the Sibir is taking on board the cargo necessary for the voyage and the Il-18 ice reconaissance has left from Murmansk on its second flight. Today it will patrol at low altitude the regions through which the atomic icebreaker's course will run. And in the evening the final conference before the departure for the Arctic will be held in the cabin of the Sibir's captain, Z. Vibakh.

BRIEFS

PROTON ACCELERATOR EXPERIMENTS -- Dubna, 10 May 87 (TASS) -- The cooperation between scientists of the Joint Institute for Nuclear Research in Dubna and the Physics Institute of the University of Milan has entered a new stage. A series of investigations on a powerful proton accelerator at the Institute of High Energy Physics in Serpukhov, with the aid of a magnetic spark spectrometer of the Joint Institute of Nuclear Research, which has been under way for several years, has come to an end. It proved possible to discover two radially excited pi-mesons, which is a great scientific achievement and is of interest for the theory of quarks, of which -- scientists presume -- all animate and inanimate nature consists. The well known Soviet physicist Professor Aleksey Tyapkin, who leads the group of scientists from the Joint Institute of Nuclear Research, told a TASS correspondent about this. He noted that preparations for the next series of investigations is proceeding apace. The equipping of a new magnetic spark spectrometer (MIS-2) is coming to an end and the experiments will begin in the near future. Professor Tyapkin and his colleague Vladimir Vishnyakov flew out to Italy for 2 weeks to discuss the results and plans for joint research. [Summary] [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1012 GMT 10 May 87 LD]

GROUND FORCES COMMANDER IVANOVSKIY HAILS VE-DAY

PM111441 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 9 May 87 First Edition p 2

[Article by Hero of the Soviet Union Army General Ye. Ivanovskiy, USSR deputy defense minister and commander in chief of Ground Forces: "We Endured"]

[Text] No matter how many years may pass since the Great Patriotic War, May 1945 will never be forgotten. At that time I was at the last front lines of combat, close to defeated Berlin. In those days, during the first hours of jubilation, people seemed to perceive nothing else but the word "Victory," and we commanders had to apply considerable efforts to maintain military order within units. This was clearly understandable. The soldiers had traveled the long road of war, marching from battle to battle, seeing so much sorrow, bloodshed, destruction, and death, likely to die themselves any day, and suddenly that amazing day of the silence of peace dawned, when soldiers no longer came under automatic fire and were no longer machinegunned or shelled and their lives were henceforth in their own hands. So they could live life to the full! They still could not grasp all this, they had no idea how to cope with such happiness....

Victory was being celebrated in units and subunits, in mustering areas, in population centers and staging posts. Radio loudspeakers boomed at full volume, transmitting speeches, congratulations, music. Concertinas and accordions broke into joyful sound. The resounding echo carried all over the world the roar of gun salutes -- honor of the Soviet Armed Forces, in honor of the Soviet people who ensured successes at the front through their selfless labor in the rear, in honor of the Communist Party, inspirer and organizer of the great victory.

The years rush past like express trains, and the calendar counts them off like a timetable. The sources and the worldwide historic significance of our victory are more clearly visible from the positions of the present. In the course of the harshest of all wars ever experienced by our motherland, the Soviet people accomplished an outstanding feat unequaled in mankind's history.

During the postwar year, bourgeois falsifiers have been trying by all means to distort the events of World War II, diminish the USSR's role in the rout of German fascism, and denigrate our Armed Forces. But their attempts are in vain.

Recognizing the credit due to the peoples of the anti-Hilter coalition countries, we at the same time recall with legitimate pride that the Soviet Union and its Armed Forces played the decisive role in the rout of Hitler's Germany. It was the Soviet people who bore the main burden of the war and blocked fascism's way to world domination.

In the course of difficult defensive operations, the Soviet Armed Forces bled the enemy white, achieved a fundamental turn in the course of the war, and, moving onto a decisive strategic offensive, won the greatest of victories. The fight for Moscow, the battle of Stalingrad, the rout of the fascists in the Northern Caucasus, at Kursk, in the Ukraine, at Leningrad, in Belorussia, and in the Baltic republics, the liberation of many European countries from Hitlerite occupation, and the capture of Germany's capital, Berlin -- these are the glorious and unforgettable landmarks along the path to the great victory.

Soviet servicemen displayed mass heroism from the very first days of war. During the war years, more than 11,500 servicemen were awarded the title Hero of the Soviet Union. [paragraph continues]

They were people with a sublime sense of duty. Their feats, like the feats performed by those whom today we respectfully style veterans of the Great Patriotic War, constitute an everlasting example of valor and courage, of prowess and heroism displayed in the name of the Soviet people's freedom, independence, and happiness.

Our victory in the Great Patriotic War was a historic watershed in the fate of mankind. It was a mighty accelerator of the world revolutionary process launched by Great October, and it exerted a most profound influence on the entire subsequent course of world development. Its consequences are manifest in the mighty strides made by world socialism, the steady growth of the communist and workers movement, and the profound progressive changes in liberated countries.

The world revolutionary process cannot be reversed. Nevertheless, the most aggressive circles continue to base their foolhardy plans on this calculation. Imperialism, above all U.S. imperialism, stubbornly pursues policies and practices that have outlived their time: It perseveres with the arms race, strives to extend it to outer space, constantly creates [sozdat] new types of mass destruction weapons, and provokes regional conflicts. Naturally, this demands of us redoubled vigilance and tireless daily work to strengthen the country's defense and enhance the combat readiness of our Armed Forces.

New generations of the motherland's defenders have joined the ranks to replace the frontline fighters under combat standards covered in glory. But the time line is unbreakable. Organically linked with the heroic past, today's Soviet servicemen build up their unshakable faith in the triumph of communist ideals and their spiritual staunchness, sensing that they are direct heirs and continuers of the remarkable revolutionary, combat, and labor tradition of the party and the heroic people.

The Communist Party strives to ensure the balanced and dynamic development of all elements of the Armed Forces' combat potential -- military skills and high standards of technical supplies, the personnel's ideological staunchness, organization, and discipline, and their loyalty to patriotic and international duty. This is tangibly translated into the constantly growing combat readiness and combat ability of units and formations.

"The Soviet Armed Forces are also living through a period of restructuring," Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, noted in his report to the party Central Committee January (1987) Plenum. "They reliably ensure the people's peaceful labor and the country's security and honorably perform their international duty." The training process in the forces is becoming increasingly intensive and strenuous, the conditions under which exercises are performed are becoming more complex, and more rigorous demands are made of personnel in the course of exercises. The combat experience of the Great Patriotic War is studied profoundly and comprehensively, and everything that is valuable and abiding is being incorporated in servicemen's training and education.

Having taken the path of profound changes on the basis of the 27th party congress decisions, commanders, political organs, staffs, and party and Komsomol organizations are strictly and demandingly evaluating the achievements and asserting a style of work which presupposes enhanced quality in the tasks to be solved and greater individual responsibility for every serviceman for his assigned sector and also encourages a creative quest for innovative approaches to questions of personnel training and education.

The closest attention is given to cadres questions -- the selection, placement, and education of officers and the enhancement of their professional competence, political maturity, and initiative. In line with party demands, encouragement in the forces is given to those servicemen who display not by words but by deeds their honest and conscientious attitude to the serviceman's duty.

By way of an example, a good reputation had been won by officers N. Mogilevets, P. Cherkasov, G. Sazonov, V. Valino, M. Gorishniy and many others who have managed to fuse the servicemen's collectives into a united combat family and to lead them to qualitatively new heights in combat perfection.

An important incentive in the daily life and combat training of troops and naval forces is provided by the socialist competition launched this study year under the slogan: "We'll Fulfill the 27th CPSU Congress Decisions and Mark Great October's 70th Anniversary With Selfless Military Labor!"

The vanguard of the patriotic movement is made up of the personnel of units which initiated the competition in their branches of the Armed Forces -- the missile unit commanded by Lieutenant Colonel N. Ulyanov, the guards tank regiment commanded by Guards Lt Col Yu. Pakhomov, the guards air defense missile regiment commanded by Guards Lt Col V. Soshko, the guards aviation regiment comanded by Guards Lt Col A. Labkovskiy, and the nuclear submarine commanded by Captain 1st Rank V. Nikolayevskiy.

The Armed Forces contain many units and formations famous not only for their combat merit but also for the skill displayed at major exercises and maneuvers and their stable high achievements in training and competition. They include the Irkutsk-Pinsk Guards Motorized Rifle Division named for the RSFSR Supreme Soviet. The glorious traditions of their regiments' frontline fighters are being worthily continued by servicemen from the Taman Guards Motorized Rifle Division named for M.I. Kalinin, the Samara-Ulyanovsk Motorized Rifle Division, the Berdichev Iron Division, the Rezh Guards Motirized Rifle Division named for Twice Hero of the Soviet Union Major General I.V. Panfilov, the Kantemir Guards Tank Division named for Yu.V. Andropov, and many others.

The servicemen of the eighties, heirs and continuers of the frontline fighters' traditions, constantly feel the paternal concern of the party and the guiding influence exerted by its Central Committee on the solution of the tasks of military building. At the contemporary stage, the party's leading role in the Armed Forces is constantly growing. This law-governed process is conditioned by the complexity of the contemporary international situation and the increased danger of "star wars" being launched by U.S. imperialism and stems from the CPSU's supreme responsibility for the reliable defense of the gains of socialism. It is also conditioned by the extended scope of military work today, the greater complexity of the organizational structure and technical supplies of troops and naval forces, the need for further creative development of Soviet military science and military art in line with the demands of the present time, and the expansion and deepening of the Soviet Armed Forces' international tasks.

...Forty-two years without war. At times it is even amazing: How quickly time flies! But all that which we have left behind only seems to be recent. [paragraph continues]

In actual fact, many events have occurred and many years have passed. True enough, none of us servicemen or working people is used to counting the years -- we simply have no time for this. All our concerns and thoughts revolve around the best possible execution of orders, around ensuring that the personnel under our command are sound masters of equipment and weapons and remain in a state of high combat readiness. The training and education of subordinates are the commanders' daily bread, and concern about combat readiness is their first commandment.

By anticipating the future, we ourselves speed up the flight of time. And it cannot be otherwise. Forward, ever onward, time! The main focus of our concern, in daily work and on holidays, is to ensure that the army formation remains always staunch and combat-capable, that command and political cadres duly maintain their high standards.

Both in the war years and now, Soviet servicemen address their best thoughts and feelings to Lenin's party. We believe in success of the foreign policy strategy pursued by our party. But for as long as the Soviet peace initiatives do not meet with proper support from imperialist states, the awareness of Soviet servicemen is totally concentrated on the further strengthening of the motherland's defense might and the enhancement of the vigilance and combat readiness of troops and naval forces. This is what we are taught by the experience of the past 70 years of Soviet power, the experience of World War II. This is what is demanded of us by the 27th party congress and the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum decisions.